

Proceedings

of

Meeting the Challenge:  
The Governor's Summit  
on  
Invasive Species

February 17, 2004

Owyhee Plaza Hotel

Boise, Idaho

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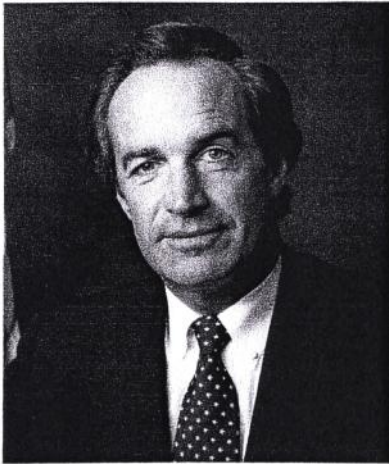
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STATE OF IDAHO  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Boise, Idaho

I would like to take a moment to celebrate the success of *Meeting the Challenge*, Idaho's statewide summit on invasive species. Never before in Idaho has such a diverse group of experts and citizens gathered to address this critical issue, and the ideas and energy generated during the Summit are invaluable to our on-going mission against invasives. I commend the Invasive Species Council and Chairman Takasugi for their efforts to ensure this success. I also commend the extraordinary cooperation by all of the stakeholders involved, and I thank you for your contribution to this process.

With each passing day the problem of invasive species grows more severe. With the knowledge and experience gained from the Invasive Species Summit, the Idaho Invasive Species Council has the tools needed to create a Strategic Action Plan to combat the invasives that continue to prey upon our forests, rangelands and water bodies.

I am once again calling upon the Council to provide their service to ensure that Idaho has a Strategic Action Plan in place by the end of the year. Based on information from the Invasive Species Summit, the Council will provide a tremendous service to landowners, local government, industry, non-profits and scientists in leading this effort.

With the Summit and last fall's invasive species assessment, we have taken stock of our current situation, so that we may devise an effective action plan for moving forward. This plan will chart the course of the Invasive Species Council and its partners over the next several years.

I look forward to working with you to build upon the work already completed on the invasive species issue.



Sincerely,

DIRK KEMPTHORNE  
Governor

OFFICE OF THE  
DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

March 17, 2004

Boise, Idaho



Greetings from the Desk of the Idaho Invasive Species Council Chair and Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Patrick A. Takasugi.

Thank you for your interest in the Governor's Summit on Invasive Species held on February 17, 2004, in Boise, Idaho. This all-day event was held in response to recommendations made in *Preparing to Meet the Challenge: An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho*, prepared by the Northwest Natural Resource Group. The purpose of this summit was to gather input and information from federal, state, county, city, and private agencies and individuals to assist the Invasive Species Council in formulating a Strategic Action Plan. Summit evaluation questionnaires were available in each registration packet, and completed questionnaires were compiled for use in preparing these summit proceedings. More than 165 stakeholders from across Idaho participated in the Summit.

Governor Dirk Kempthorne directed the Invasive Species Council to create a Strategic Action Plan by December 31, 2004. Some of the issues the Council will address in the next several months in formulating the Strategic Action Plan are:

- Improving alert lists for invasive species
- Implementing an early detection and rapid response system
- Improving coordination and communication of all agencies
  - e.g., training survey crews to recognize other invasive species
- Raising public awareness of invasive species
  - e.g., marina signage project
  - e.g., Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign
- Providing a strong leadership structure and a budget to accomplish the goals
- Continuing to support Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs) and a strong federal funding partnership. (In 2003, some accomplishments of the CWMAs included treatment of 110,000+ acres; revegetation of 1,800+ acres; mapped and surveyed 330,000+ acres; and made public contacts of 110,000+ persons.)



The formation of the Strategic Action Plan is the next exciting step in implementing a viable course of action to address the invasive species problem in Idaho. One impression I had was a sense of urgency in getting the Strategic Action Plan in place and moving together in a cooperative effort to respond quickly and effectively. Failing to take appropriate action can adversely impact all Idahoans – from the destruction of the natural ecosystems enjoyed by residents and tourists alike, to endangerment of crops and livestock, to human health concerns – and ultimately to affecting numerous industries that are the backbone of Idaho's economy.

I look forward to working with all of you who are interested in accomplishing this important task. To be included in this worthwhile endeavor, I encourage you to contact the committee chair, Brenda Waters, Noxious Weed Program Coordinator, at (208) 332-8528 or via email at [bwaters@idahoag.us](mailto:bwaters@idahoag.us).

Thank you for your interest in the Governor's Summit and the fight against invasive species in Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick A. Takasugi", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Patrick A. Takasugi  
Chair, Invasive Species Council  
Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture

# **Meeting the Challenge: The Governor's Summit on Invasive Species**

## **2004 Proceedings**

### **Agenda**

#### **Summit Overview**

#### **Invasive Species Council Overview**

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Invasive Species Management: A Priority for Idaho**

Governor Dirk Kempthorne  
State of Idaho  
*(behind gold divider)*



## **Legislative Perspective on Invasive Species Management**

Rep. Darrell Bolz  
Idaho State Legislature – District 10  
*(behind green divider)*

## **Invasive Species Management: Risk Assessment and Setting Priorities**

Dr. Ron Hiebert  
Research Coordinator, National Park Service  
Adjunct Professor, Northern Arizona University  
*(behind blue divider)*

## **Preparing to Meet the Challenge: An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho**

Joe Hinson  
Northwest Natural Resource Group  
*(behind yellow divider)*

## **Moving Toward an Action Plan: Gaining Momentum – How You Can Help**

Director Rick Collignon  
Idaho State Department of Parks and Recreation  
*(behind salmon divider)*

## **Speaker Biographies** *(behind purple divider)*

## **Breakout Summaries:**

Agricultural Pests  
Aquatic & Riparian Nuisance Species  
Forest & Urban Pests  
Terrestrial Weeds #1  
Terrestrial Weeds #2

## **Capstone Remarks**

*(behind cherry divider)*

## **List of Participants**

*(behind buff divider)*

## **Summary of Evaluations**

*(behind pink divider)*



## Agenda

### Meeting the Challenge: The Governor's Summit on Invasive Species

Tuesday, February 17, 2004  
Owyhee Plaza Hotel, Boise, ID

- 9:00 AM Welcome by Pat Takasugi, Chairman, Invasive Species Council; Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture
- 9:05 *"Invasive Species Management: A Priority for Idaho"* - Governor Dirk Kempthorne
- 9:15 Chairman Pat Takasugi introduced Roger Batt, Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign Coordinator
- Mr. Batt presented Governor Kempthorne with the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign Award for "his fight and awareness against invasive species".
- Ch. Takasugi introduced Idaho Representative Darrell Bolz, District 10
- 9:30 *"Legislative Perspective on Invasive Species Management"*, - Rep. Darrell Bolz
- 9:45 Ch. Takasugi introduced Dr. Ron Hiebert, Research Coordinator, National Park Service and Adjunct Professor, Northern Arizona University
- "Invasive Species Management: Risk Assessment and Setting Priorities"* – Dr. Ron Hiebert
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Ch. Takasugi introduced Joe Hinson, Northwest Natural Resources Group
- "Preparing to Meet the Challenge: An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho"* - Joe Hinson
- 11:15 Ch. Takasugi introduced Rick Collignon, Director, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
- "Moving Toward an Action Plan: Gaining Momentum – How You Can Help"* – Director Rick Collignon
- 11:45 Lunch
- 12:45 Ch. Takasugi introduced Rick Waitley, President of Waitley Associates
- Rick Waitley described the break out sessions and introduced the facilitators of each session:

1:00 Breakout Sessions and Facilitators:

Agricultural Pests – Sara Braasch, Executive Director – Idaho Rural Partnership  
Aquatic & Riparian Nuisance Species – Mike Murphy, Department of Lands  
Forest & Urban Pests – Pat Momont, U of I Extension District II Director  
Terrestrial Weeds #1 – Mary Lee Wood, U of I Extension Emeritus  
Terrestrial Weeds #2 – Neil Rimby, U of I Extension Range Economist

2:30 Break

2:45 Rick Waitley introduced each Break Out Session presenter who in turn gave their Group Report:

Agricultural Pests – Ben Simko, Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
Aquatic & Riparian Nuisance Species – Paul Heimowitz, US Fish & Wildlife Service  
Forest & Urban Pests – Ladd Livingston, Idaho Department of Lands  
Terrestrial Weeds #1 – Glen Secrist, BLM  
Terrestrial Weeds #2 – Carl Rey, Camas Creek CWMA Steering Committee

3:15 Rick Waitley gave Capstone Remarks

3:45 Ch. Takasugi gave Closing Remarks:

The Executive Order from Governor Kempthorne in 2001 was the beginning.

Three points to achieve:

- 1) Assessment
- 2) Bring in all stakeholders
- 3) Action Plan
  - a) Assemble the Invasive Species Strategic Action Plan – next steps through December 2004

Invasive Council will take and assemble all of this information.

It will take everyone's involvement plus volunteers.

For additional information contact: Brenda Waters  
bwaters@agri.state.id.us  
208-332-8528

*"We hope to continue the quality of life in Idaho and set an example for the nation."*

Special thanks to the following:

**Sponsors**

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Idaho Department of Agriculture  
Idaho Water Users Association  
PacifiCorp  
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission  
The Nature Conservancy



**Governor Dirk Kempthorne's Office**

Jim Yost  
Samantha Pisca

**Invasive Species Council and Task Group Members**

**Brenda Waters, Noxious Weed Program Coordinator**

**The Nature Conservancy**

Bas Hargrove  
Will Whelan

**Parks & Recreation**

Jan Johns  
Jennifer Colcord

**Rick Waitley, Association Management Group**

**Joe Hinson, Northwest Natural Resources Group**

**Speakers:**

Governor Dirk Kempthorne  
Representative Darrell Bolz  
Dr. Ron Hiebert  
Joe Hinson  
Rick Collignon  
Rick Waitley

**Facilitators**

**Spokespersons/experts**

**Note takers**

**IT assistants**

4:00

Summit Concluded

*MEETING THE CHALLENGE:*  
*THE GOVERNOR'S SUMMIT ON INVASIVE SPECIES*  
**OVERVIEW**

***Participant Homework!***

As a registered summit attendee, we hope you will actively participate in the afternoon breakout sessions. We have asked you to choose a breakout session based on your interest in one of four areas: 1) terrestrial weeds, 2) aquatic and riparian nuisance species, 3) forest and urban pests, or 4) agricultural pests. **Please read the registration materials carefully, and begin thinking about the enclosed breakout questions as they pertain to your chosen area of interest.**

Non-native, invasive species cost Idaho millions of dollars each year, threatening the state's agriculture, forestry, wildlife, recreation and commerce. Species like yellow starthistle, white pine blister rust and cereal leaf beetle already have a presence in the state. Others, such as the zebra mussel, have not yet invaded Idaho but could significantly hurt the state's economy and ecology if they do.

Governor Dirk Kempthorne is hosting "Meeting the Challenge: The Governor's Summit on Invasive Species" to address this challenge. Natural resource managers, experts, and other interested parties from around the state are expected to participate.

Governor Kempthorne established the Idaho Invasive Species Council in 2001. The intent of the summit is to bring the work of the council to a much wider audience. "The ultimate success of the Invasive Species Council will depend on our ability to mobilize landowners, local government, industry, non-profits and scientists," says Governor Kempthorne, who will speak on why invasive species management is a priority for Idaho at the summit.

The summit follows the release of *Preparing to Meet the Challenge: An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho*. The assessment identifies strengths and weaknesses of current invasive species management efforts, and makes recommendations on how best to address management needs. Joe Hinson of Northwest Natural Resources Group will present findings of the assessment in the morning. Other segments of the morning session are designed to educate attendees on invasive species, the threats new invaders could pose to Idaho, and management of these pests.

Summit participants are expected to play an important role in defining future invasive species efforts in Idaho. During afternoon breakout sessions, attendees can help provide solutions based on an area of interest whether it is terrestrial weeds, aquatic and riparian nuisance species, forest and urban pests, or agricultural pests. The input participants provide will help the state chart a course for an action plan addressing invasive species.

A spokesperson for each group will report back on the findings from the breakouts. Rick Waitley of Association Management Group will provide capstone remarks on the day's results.

Governor Kempthorne has called for the Invasive Species Council to complete a statewide Invasive Species Action Plan by the end of the year. The council will use input from the summit as it develops this plan.

## IDAHO INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

### OVERVIEW

February 2004

Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne created the Idaho Invasive Species Council (ISC) by Executive Order on September 26, 2001. The purpose of the ISC is:

*To provide policy level direction and planning for combating harmful invasive species infestations throughout the state and for preventing the introduction of others that may be potentially harmful. (Executive Order 2001-11)*

The primary responsibilities of the council are to:

1. *Minimize the effects of harmful non-native species on Idaho's citizens, economy, and environment;*
2. *Serve as a non-partisan forum for identifying and understanding invasive species issues;*
3. *Take measures to encourage control and prevention of harmful non-native species;*
4. *Organize and streamline the identification and control of invasive species; and*
5. *Consider ways to halt the spread of invasive species and to control current problems.*

Membership in the council includes representatives of state, local, federal, and tribal governments. Representatives from private and not-for-profit organizations also participate in the council in an ex-officio capacity. Additional members may be added by consensus of the council.

The discovery of Eurasian watermilfoil in Payette Lake in the fall of 2000 stimulated interest in forming the Invasive Species Council. Eurasian watermilfoil has also spread from western Washington into several lakes in the Panhandle and is considered a major threat to tourism, water-based recreation and sport fishing throughout the region. This is the first aquatic weed added to Idaho's noxious weed list.

### Ongoing ISC Work:

In April 2003, the council outlined the following major tasks:

1. Complete a statewide invasive species assessment;
2. Host a statewide invasive species summit to discuss the findings of the assessment; and
3. Draft an invasive species strategy by December 2004 for review with the 2005 Idaho Legislature.

The council reviewed and approved the invasive species assessment, *Preparing to Meet the Challenge*, in December 2003. The assessment is available online at [http://www.agri.state.id.us/animal/inv\\_species.htm](http://www.agri.state.id.us/animal/inv_species.htm). Governor Kempthorne and the council will host the summit, *Meeting the Challenge*, in February 2004 in preparation for completing an action plan.

In addition, subcommittees of the council are doing on-the-ground work to combat invasives. The Eurasian Watermilfoil Task Group is battling this aquatic weed at waterbodies in five counties and is identifying other lakes, rivers, ponds, and reservoirs at risk across Idaho. The Marina Signage Task Group is working to post educational signs at hundreds of boat ramps around the state.



*IDAHO INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL*  
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**What is an invasive species?**

It's a species that is non-native to Idaho and causes economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive species include terrestrial and aquatic weeds, microorganisms, insects and other invertebrates, and even birds and mammals.

**Are all non-native species invasive?**

NO! Idaho has benefited greatly from the introduction of many non-native species of plants and animals. It would be hard to envision Idaho's economy or lifestyle without potatoes, chukar partridges, apples, or wheat – all species that evolved elsewhere and were brought to this state. The council fully supports the continued production of species that benefit Idaho.

**When was the ISC formed and how?**

Governor Kempthorne established the Idaho Invasive Species Council through Executive Order No. 2001-11 on September 26, 2001.

**What is the purpose of the Idaho Invasive Species Council?**

As stated in the Executive Order, the purpose of the Invasive Species Council is to “provide policy level direction and planning for combating harmful invasive species infestations throughout the state and for preventing the introduction of others that may be potentially harmful.” The council is a joint effort between public agencies and private organizations to foster coordinated approaches that support local initiatives for the prevention and control of invasive species.

**What are the council's responsibilities?**

As outlined in Governor Kempthorne's Executive Order, the council's responsibilities are:

1. To minimize the effects of harmful non-native species on Idaho citizens and to ensure the economic and environmental well being of the State of Idaho;
2. To serve as a nonpartisan forum for identifying and understanding invasive species issues from all perspectives;
3. To take measures that will encourage control and prevention of harmful non-native species;
4. To organize and streamline the process for identifying and controlling invasive species; and
5. To consider ways to halt the spread of invasive species as well as finding possible ways to bring current problems under control.

**Who is on the council?**

Membership in the council includes representatives of state, local, federal, and tribal governments. Representatives from private and not-for-profit organizations also participate in the council in an ex-officio capacity. Additional members may be added by consensus of the council.

**What is the council doing?**

In April 2003, the council outlined the following major tasks:

1. Complete a statewide invasive species assessment;
2. Host a statewide invasive species summit to discuss the findings of the assessment; and
3. Draft an invasive species strategy by December 2004 for review with the 2005 Idaho Legislature.

The council reviewed and approved the invasive species assessment, *Preparing to Meet the Challenge*, in December 2003. The assessment is available online at [http://www.agri.state.id.us/animal/inv\\_species.htm](http://www.agri.state.id.us/animal/inv_species.htm). Governor Kempthorne and the council will host the summit, *Meeting the Challenge*, in February 2004 in preparation for completing an action plan.

In addition, subcommittees of the council are doing on-the-ground work to combat invasives. The Eurasian watermilfoil subcommittee is battling this aquatic weed at waterbodies in five counties and is identifying other lakes, rivers, ponds, and reservoirs at risk across Idaho. The marina signage subcommittee is working to post educational signs at several hundred boat ramps and marinas around the state.

# **Invasive Species Management: A Priority for Idaho**

Governor Dirk Kempthorne



# GOVERNOR DIRK KEMPTHORNE

Opening Remarks at  
The Governor's Idaho Invasive Species Summit  
Owyhee Plaza Hotel  
Boise, Idaho  
February 17, 2004  
(as prepared)

Good morning. I want to thank all of you for attending this important conference. The fact that you're here illustrates how important the issue of invasive species is to our state and how many Idahoans are working to find solutions.

Look around this room. We're fortunate to have experts and leaders from our universities, the federal government, private industry, counties, non-profit organizations, state agencies and the public.

This is the most talented and influential group ever to come together to address the problem of invasive species in Idaho

As many of you know, I like to ride my Harley Davidson motorcycle. I want to tell you about a trip I took last year.

It was a thousand-mile trip from Boise to Missoula, Montana, where I attended a Western Governors Association meeting on forest health.

Let me tell you that there is no better way to experience our magnificent outdoors. As you ride, you're not just seeing the sights, you're smelling the clean air, the scent of the flowers and the trees; you're feeling the temperature of the air – pockets of warm and cold as you move from meadows to forested areas.

I stopped at Lolo Pass, along the route of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. I walked to the Glade Creek Meadow where Lewis and Clark camped on two different occasions. As I walked, I would stop every so often and just listen...it's amazing what you can hear. The variety of songbirds, the wind rustling through the trees...it was absolutely beautiful.

Those songbirds, if you think about it, are likely the descendants of those who were there 200 years ago. So they were the same sounds that the Corps of Discovery could hear. You think about the smells and the aromas and the scents that are there and then consider that those wildflowers are the descendants of the flowers that were there two centuries before. Some of the trees may actually be the same trees and you never know if the one you're standing next to was one that a member of the Corps of Discovery might have leaned against.

So I invite you to take the drive to Lolo Pass and see that historic meadow for yourself. As you stand in that magnificent setting, just think how little has changed in the 200 years since the Corps of Discovery. We want to preserve that meadow for future generations. Imagine if noxious weeds were to take hold and forever change the ecology of the site. We can't allow that to happen.

We must be vigilant to combat invasive species all over the state.

That's where you come in.

During this conference, you'll have the opportunity to become active participants in Idaho's campaign against invasive species.

We all recognize the enormous threat that biological invaders pose to our environment and the hundreds of millions of dollars spent each year it costs Idaho agriculture, forestry, recreation, and other sectors to control every year.

I have directed the Governor's Invasive Species Council to prepare an action plan by the end of this year. This afternoon, we will ask for your recommendations on how to craft such an action plan and how to involve the groups you represent in the effort.

With this gathering, the State of Idaho will begin to chart a new course of action to fight invasive species. We respectfully request your ideas, energy, and commitment.

Idaho is fortunate to have many heroes in the fight against invasive species. Many are right here in this room.

- Sen. Larry Craig has secured federal funding for fighting weeds. The money goes to locally-based cooperative weed management areas.
- County weed control superintendents and members of cooperative weed management areas all across Idaho are our first line of defense.
- Members of the Idaho Weed Coordinating Committee, and Idaho Weed Control Association provide professional leadership and coordination.
- The Eurasian water milfoil task force and local organizations are fighting to protect many of our most valuable waters.
- The Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign, which launched last year, is doing an outstanding job of educating the public about this threat.
- And, most importantly, Idaho foresters, farmers, irrigators, and ranchers are our land stewards – they work every day on the front lines of the fight against the invaders.

There are many more efforts happening in this state than I have time to mention. I thank you all for your contributions.

Everyone who is familiar with noxious weeds and other invasive species knows what is the key to success in this fight: prevention and rapid response.

- Imagine how different things would be today if alert land managers had quickly eradicated yellow star thistle when the first patch of just a few acres was detected in 1955. This damaging noxious weed now infests well over half a million acres in Idaho.
- Or, think about how different this would be today if the State of Washington had not trained its state police to detect zebra mussels. In 2001, an alert patrolman inspected a yacht at the port of entry near Spokane and located live mussels that could have made their way into the Columbia River Basin and cost the region billions of dollars in damage and control costs.



We have learned from hard experience that we must act quickly after a new invader arrives or it will quickly spread to a point where it can no longer be eradicated.

- To be successful, we need to identify the most damaging potential invaders; we need a network that is vigilant for their first appearance in new landscapes; and we need a capacity to act quickly to eradicate them.
- The task of fighting invasive species is too big for any single agency or even any level of government. This is a large and diverse state with many different land and natural resources managers. We will succeed only if we can work together. We all need each other.
- We need the science and extension capacity that the universities can bring.
- We need the consistent involvement from the federal agencies that manage nearly 2/3 of our state's land and dozens of water projects;
- We need a commitment from every state agency in a position to contribute;
- We need local government and organizations such as cooperative weed management areas because this is where the eradication work happens;
- And, most importantly, we need to earn the trust and support of landowners, private industry and the public.

I'd like to close by mentioning one new effort that typifies this cooperative approach.

Last summer, New Zealand mudsnails were detected at Silver Creek, a world-renowned trout fishery in southern Idaho. These snails are tiny – ranging from an 1/8 of an inch to the size of a grain of sand. But, what they lack in size they more than make up in sheer numbers. Mudsnails can achieve densities of 500,000 per square meter and compete with the aquatic insects that provide the food supply for fish.

New Zealand mud snails were first found in the middle Snake River in the 1980s. They have rapidly spread to many waters in the West, where they are posing new and unexpected problems for fishery managers.

I am pleased to announce a partnership among the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the University of Idaho, and The Nature Conservancy to conduct field research on the impact of New Zealand mudsnails at Silver Creek. This public/private initiative will examine their distribution, spread, and impact. Silver Creek will become an outdoor laboratory that will teach us how to combat these tiny invaders.

And, this coming fishing season, the Conservancy and Fish and Game will work together to educate anglers and take measures to limit the spread of New Zealand mudsnails.

Time is of the essence in the fight against invasive species. If we act now to face this threat, we can save ourselves from huge expenses and headaches in future years. Most importantly, we can fulfill our responsibilities to protect our natural landscapes. We ask for your help.



# **Legislative Perspective on Invasive Species Management**

Representative Darrell Bolz

# The Governor's Summit on Invasive Species

February 17, 2004

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is indeed a privilege to be asked to speak to you today on the Legislative Prospective on Invasive Species Management.

When first asked to discuss this topic with you, I was a little apprehensive since the legislation of a year ago, H0212, did not even get out of the House Resource and Conservation Committee. I wondered why a legislative prospective with that kind of a background. I concluded that in order for me to give a legislative prospective, I felt it necessary to discuss the issue with some of the legislators. I was somewhat surprised at some of the responses which I received when I questioned them about invasive species. Ladies and Gentlemen, we have some education work to do. If the general public has the same kind of knowledge, and I suspect that they do, we have a lot of work to do. From my unscientific survey of legislators, the one word of **education** stood out.

For example: There are some who did not know what invasive species were. There are some who thought that it only refers to noxious weeds. There were, of course, some who were familiar with the term and understood the ramifications associated with invasive species. Most all legislators I spoke to, after telling them what invasive species included, were very favorable about controlling or eradicating them before they get established.

I feel confident that if I had sat down with them individually and taken the time to explain the invasive species concept and named some examples such as Yellow Starthistle, Eurasian watermilfoil, Cereal Leaf Beetle, and others, they would have been better acquainted with what the Council is attempting to do.

One of the concerns that I heard expressed as to why the legislation failed to get out of committee last year was that it was felt the council was too large in size (too many people on it). The indication was that with a group that large, it would be ineffective.

Personally, I feel that for the Council to be effective in its stated purpose from the Governor's Executive Order 2001-11 of September 26, 2001, the Council needs representation from a wide spectrum. This will help ensure that the word gets out to the entire state.

I did discuss the issue of continuing under the Executive Order versus passing legislation with a couple of legislators. There is not a consensus on which would be more effective. There was one concern though, that is, can invasive species be controlled adequately with just the Executive Order in place. In other words, is there enough authority in existing statutes to get the job accomplished.

If one looks at the purpose of the Executive Order more closely though we find that it only specifies the Council is to provide **policy level direction and planning for combating harmful invasive species** and does not include the authority for the Council to do the actual work of controlling. The question then would be: does the Council have any authority to mandate any control efforts or is that left to the discretion of the agencies/departments?

From a personal perspective, I feel that the Council is doing some good things. I would only hope that it continues its efforts. The challenge is getting more difficult each day. With the way things are going in today's society, invasive species will continue to become a bigger problem. Weeds, diseases, insects, and other species are constantly becoming problems. Too often, we see people who do not understand what it is that they are dealing with and they neglect to notify those who could do something about the situation. We must get a handle on these invasive species before they get us. Constant monitoring, along with proper identification, and then proper control/eradication efforts are certainly warranted.

The invasive species program is going to take the combined efforts of all agencies/departments of local, state, and federal governments as well as the private citizens if we are going to have any success at all. The consequences of not taking any action could be greater than any of us realize today. We have seen what can happen with situations such as Yellow Starthistle, Eurasian watermilfoil, and others. We must be proactive!

I challenge you to continue your efforts with what you are doing. Efforts that are coordinated between agencies and/or groups are gratifying to see. I realize that it often takes longer than we would like for progress to be made. I also realize that there are times when someone desires to receive the credit for something being done. With this issue, we cannot afford for that to happen. This must be a coordinated effort to be successful.

This afternoon you will have the opportunity to help shape the future of Idaho's invasive species action plan. Take the time to think outside of the box. The future of Idaho may very well rest with the direction you decide to take. To many this issue may seem like agriculturally oriented, but it is much larger than that. Yes, agriculture is involved, but so are many other aspects of Idaho life. Invasive species invade on the territory of every Idahoan.

Thank you again for inviting me to speak to you today. Best wishes for a successful summit.



# **Invasive Species Management: Risk Assessment and Setting Priorities**

Dr. Ron Hiebert

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT: RISK ASSESSMENT AND SETTING PRIORITIES

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Ron.Hiebert@nau.edu

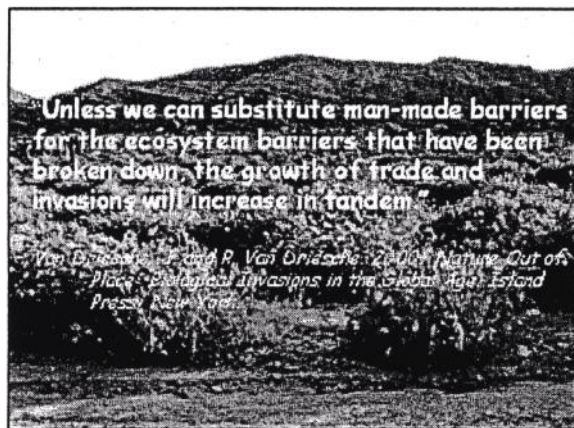
## National Park Service



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AMERICA

### RISK ASSESSMENT & PRIORITIZATION

- RISK ASSESSMENT
- SETTING PRIORITIES
- CRITERIA FOR SETTING PRIORITIES
- EXISTING SYSTEMS
- CASE STUDY
- TIPS



## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### GOALS OF INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

- Prevent the invasion of exotic species that are known to or have a high potential to cause significant negative impacts.
- Eradicate or control harmful invasive species already present and restore sites to desired condition.

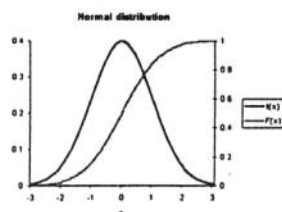
## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### What is Risk?

Probability of negative consequences of an action  
X  
impact of those consequences



## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### What is relative risk?

Probability of event occurring  
X  
impact if event occurs

## National Park Service



### Assessing the Problem: Understanding the Nature of the Risks of Weeds Across Borders

New Zealand analysis by Williams et al, 2001

- What species and groups of species cause the most impact?
- What are the major pathways for introductions?
- Who and what are the vectors?

## National Park Service



### Cautions and Rules for Weed Risk Assessment

- Estimates of parameters require subjective determinations and should be clearly identified and supported
- Components of the risk assessment (model used, data collected, sources cited, etc.) must be thoroughly documented.
- Assessments should be open to peer review.
- Risk assessment tools should be continually modified and improved as indicated by new information.

## National Park Service



### Why Prioritize?

- Can't do everything, at least not next year
- Get the biggest bang for your buck
- Avoid waste of resources on non-restorable sites
- Justification for program activities

## National Park Service

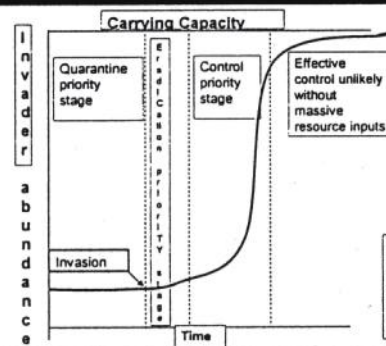
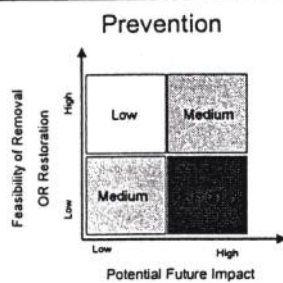


Figure from Hobbs, Richard J. and Stella E. Humphries, 1995. An integrated approach to the ecology and management of plant invasions. *Conservation Biology* 9(4): 761-770.

## National Park Service

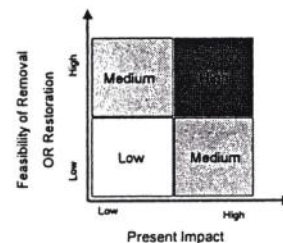


from: Parker et al. (1999), p. 14, Figure 3

## National Park Service



### Eradiation/Control



from: Parker et al. (1999), p. 14, Figure 3



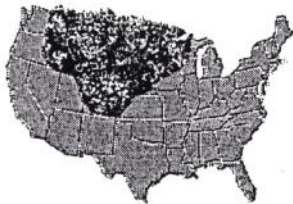
## National Park Service



### PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION

EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

- STOCHASTIC
- EXTRAPOLATION
- BIOLOGICAL



## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### STOCHASTIC

INVASION PROBABILITY  
INCREASES IN PROPORTION TO  
INNOCULUM SIZE, NUMBER OF  
INTRODUCTION ATTEMPTS, AND  
RESIDENCE TIME.

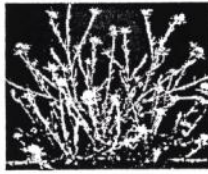
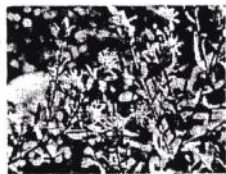
## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### EXTRAPOLATION

THE BEST PREDICTOR IF A SPECIES IS GOING  
TO BE INVASIVE AT A SITE IS THAT IT IS  
INVASIVE ELSEWHERE.



## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### BIOLOGICAL

CERTAIN BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERS ARE  
CORRELATED WITH INVASIVE PLANTS.

EXAMPLES: FREQUENT PRODUCTION OF  
LARGE NUMBERS OF SEEDS, SMALL SEEDS,  
LARGE LATITUDINAL RANGE IN NATIVE  
HABITAT, LONG DISTANCE DISPERSAL,  
VEGETATIVE PRODUCTION, NON-SPECIFIC  
MUTUALISMS, MEMBER OF EXOTIC GENERA.

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### EXISTING PREDICTIVE SYSTEMS

- Australian weed risk assessment
- Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force
- Natural Resource Conservation Service

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### EXISTING PRIORITIZATION SYSTEMS

- Florida: for wildlands but includes economic considerations
- Virginia: for weeds of wildlands
- California: wildlands
- Nature Serve
- Alien Plant Ranking System
- New Zealand: weed-led and site-led
- National Invasive Species Council: prioritizes invasive species projects

## National Park Service



### PRIORITIZING INVADED SITES FOR RESTORATION

Categorize Alien Plants at Regional Scale  
(Invasive Species Assessment Protocol)

Survey and Assess High I-Rank Species at  
Management Unit  
(Alien Plant Ranking System - APR S)

Select Potential Invaded Sites for Restoration  
Treatment

Assess Restoration Potential/Priority of Sites  
Within Each Management Unit  
(Restoration Rapid Assessment Tool)

Prioritize Sites For Restoration Among  
Management Units  
(urgency, degree of resolution, logistics)

EXPERIENCE  
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AMERICA

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
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AMERICA

THE INVASIVE SPECIES ASSESSMENT  
PROTOCOL: A NEW TOOL FOR CREATING  
REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LISTS OF INVASIVE  
NON-NATIVE PLANTS THAT NEGATIVELY  
IMPACT BIODIVERSITY (Natureserve.org)

John Randall-TNC, Larry Morse, Nancy Benton,  
Stephanie Lu-Nature Serve, and Ron Hiebert-NPS

## National Park Service



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### PURPOSE

Develop ranked lists of alien species based upon  
their negative impacts to wildlands using  
objective, transparent, and consistent criteria.  
Intended scale is national, state, regional.

## National Park Service



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AMERICA

### THE INVASIVE SPECIES ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL CRITERIA

1. Ecological Impact
2. Current Distribution and Abundance
3. Trend in Distribution and Abundance
4. Management Difficulty

## National Park Service



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CALIFORNIA INVASIVE PLANT COUNCIL  
(caleppc.org) AND SOUTHWEST VEGETATION  
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (SWVMA.ORG)

1. Ecological Impact
2. Invasive Potential
3. Ecological Amplitude
4. Rating Level of Documentation

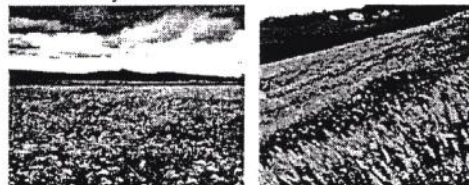
## National Park Service



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### Alien Plant Ranking System (APRS) <http://www.usgs.nau.edu/SWEPIC>

1. Significance of threat or impact (site characteristics)
2. Innate Ability to be a Pest (Species characteristics)
3. Feasibility of Control



## National Park Service



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AMERICA

### A RESTORATION RAPID ASSESSMENT TOOL (RRAT)

Assumption: Goal of invasive species management  
is system/site restoration

- Tool to rank sites for management action and to  
provide guidance on the type of actions indicated  
based upon departure of site from  
desired/reference conditions.
- Criteria include feasibility of restoration and site  
value

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### NINE CATEGORIES FOR ASSESSING RESTORATION POTENTIAL/PRIORITY

Disturbance	Abiotic/physical factors	Soil Quality
Hydrology	Ecosystem Processes	Vegetation
Invasive Plants	Wildlife	Site Values

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

- The war with invasive species has just begun. We  
need to not only fight hard but smart.
- Some further investment in risk assessment is  
prudent.
- Be inclusive, not exclusive

## National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA

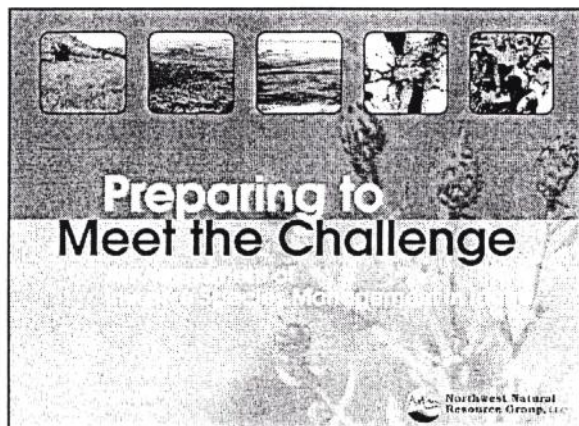
### MORE CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Don't reinvent the wheel. Federal agencies, states,  
and other countries dealing with the same issues.
- Try to make prevention/protection a top priority.  
Identify those special places that are not invaded and  
keep them that way.
- Design to Learn



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge:  
An Assessment of Invasive Species  
Management in Idaho**

Joe Hinson



## Preparing to Meet the Challenge

An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

### Purpose of The Assessment

- Identify threats of invasive species to Idaho
- Evaluate on-going actions in prevention or control
- Offer recommendations to be more effective
- Educate policy makers and stakeholders
- Assist the Invasive Species Council in carrying out its mission

Northwest Natural Resource Group, LLC

## Preparing to Meet the Challenge

An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

### What is an Invasive Species?

- Plant, animal or microbial
- Non-native, introduced species
- Aquatic or terrestrial
- Cause harm to human or animal health
- Cause economic or environmental harm

Northwest Natural Resource Group, LLC

## Preparing to Meet the Challenge

An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

### Many Non-Native Species Are Desirable

- Potatoes
- Chukar partridges, pheasants
- Apples
- Wheat
- Forage crops



Northwest Natural Resource Group, LLC

## Preparing to Meet the Challenge

An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

### Two Types of Threats:

- Invasive species already in Idaho causing damage and which might spread to new areas
- Invasive species not here now, but likely to enter Idaho and then cause damage

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## Preparing to Meet the Challenge

An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

### Invasive Species Are Not Totally "Ag" Problems

- Human health
- Forests
- Rangelands and farms
- Waterways
- Urban environments

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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge** An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Invasive Species Threaten Human and Animal Health**

West Nile Virus

- deadly to humans and animals



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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge** An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

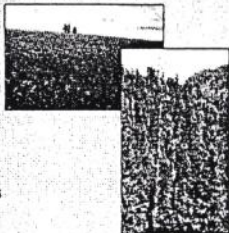
**Invasive Species Threaten our Forests**

Hawkweed

- Out-competing tree seedlings in Idaho's northern forests

White Pine Blister Rust

- Wiped out 90% Idaho's native white pine forests



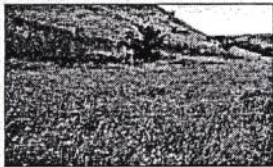
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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge** An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Invasive Species Threaten Rangelands and Farms**

Yellow Starthistle

- Reducing grazing for wildlife and livestock
- Poisonous to horses
- Difficult to hike through



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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge** An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Invasive Species Threaten Recreation**

Eurasian watermilfoil

- Unusable beaches
- Displaces aquatic wildlife
- Shades out native plants
- Interferes with power generation
- Clogs irrigation systems



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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge** An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Invasive Species May Destroy Urban Environments**

Asian Longhorned Beetle

- Attacks popular shade trees and eventually kills them
- Early detection and rapid treatment are critical




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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge** An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**"Numerous reports of boaters injured by flying carp"**

- Big headed carp grow to four feet and may weigh 70 pounds
- They out-compete native fisheries
- Many recreationists injured



Biologist Duane Chapman says jumping Asian carp like the bighead he's holding, are a hazard to boaters on the lower Missouri River


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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**

### Why Idahoans Should be Concerned

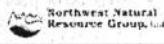
- Geography and habitat make Idaho susceptible
- Idaho's economy and lifestyle is dependent on ag lands and natural resources
- Thousands of visitors enjoy our lakes, rivers, and mountains bringing weeds, insects, and animals
- Detection difficult due to vast undeveloped lands



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**

### Idaho's current Invasive Species Program

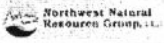
- Noxious Weed law administered by ISDA, with CWMA's as centerpiece
- F&G governs exotics - importation, release, sale
- ISDA authorities require weed free seeds
- IDL authorities manage and control forest pests
- ISDA authorities to inspect nursery and horticultural ops



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**

### Idaho Budget for Invasives management

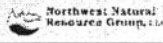
- Funds for weed control
  - Legislature for CWMA grants - \$541,000
  - Federal grants from USFS & BLM - \$1.3 million
  - Property tax - \$3.5 million
- Funds for Agricultural Pest Management
  - Inspection Fees - \$381,000
  - USDA Coop Agreements/Grants - \$345,000
  - Idaho State General Funds - \$70,000



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**

### Role of Federal Government

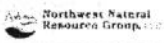
- Over 20 federal agencies and 10 cabinet level departments have responsibility. Examples:
  - U.S. Customs – baggage inspection
  - D.O.D. – controls weeds on military installations
  - State Dept. – U.S. position at int'l conventions
  - DOT-Coast Guard – regulates ballast water



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**

### Invasive Species Council & National Plan

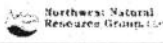
- E.O. 13112 which:
  - Prohibited agency actions that promoted introduction
  - Created the Invasive Species Council
  - Established an advisory committee
  - Called for national plan



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**

### Key Information from:


- Review of invasive species literature
- Interviewed agency staff and other experts
- Surveyed Idaho's invasive species managers
- Reviewed local, state, and federal programs



**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**  
An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Six Key Findings**


- Fragmented species management
- Need for education and awareness at all levels
- Some invaders receive little attention compared to other invaders
- Scarce resources
- Funding is key to success
- Prevention-focus more effective

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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**  
An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Being Effective against Invasive Species**


- Prevention and early detection
- Education
- Funding and Resources
- Adequate Laws
- Continued role of Federal Government

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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**  
An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**Recommendations**


- Establish equitable source of funds
- Conduct education programs
- Set priorities to address species
- Establish process to assess risk
- Coordinate invasive work within State Government
- Enact needed changes in law
- Identify research needs
- Hold an Idaho Invasive Species Summit

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**Preparing to Meet the Challenge**  
An Assessment of Invasive Species Management in Idaho

**We must meet the Challenge**

- Assemble the financial resources
- Establish legal authorities
- Create more inter-agency organization
- Build public awareness

 Northwest Natural Resource Group, LLC



# **Moving Toward an Action Plan: Gaining Momentum – How You Can Help**

Director Rick Collignon



## Moving Toward An Action Plan

Gaining Momentum – How you can help

## What are we here to do today?

- Create a Plan for Action

## Idaho's Action Plan

- What do we need the plan to do?
  - Complete Work Begun With Assessment?
  - Secure Funding?
  - Align Management?
  - Species / Problem Inventory?
  - Increase Awareness?
  - Encourage Proactive Thinking?
  - Utilize Current Resources?
  - Establish Training Programs?
  - Coordinate Control / Prevention?
  - Strategize for Rapid Response?
  - Develop Statewide Prevention Plan?
  - Establish Realistic - Workable Framework?

## The Value of a Plan

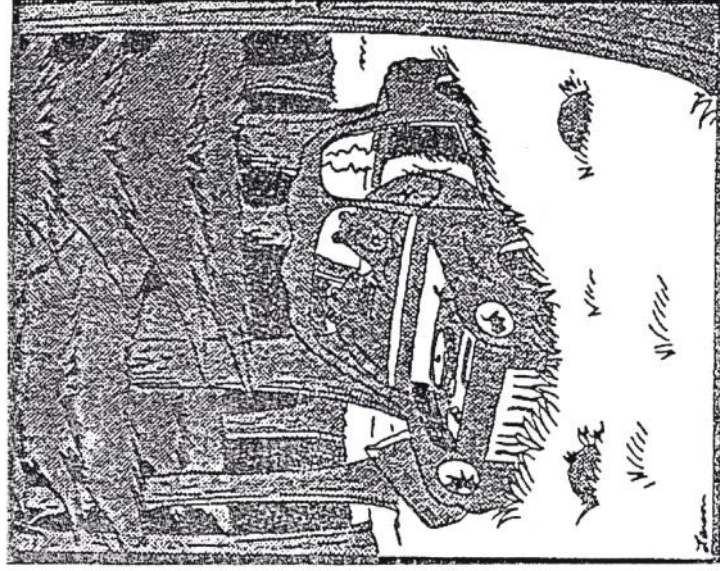
- Establishes Vision



"There's about 8 inches... If we could get the battery recharged, we could get out. But, with up to 40 inches of snow, we'd be the grizzly bear's lunch."

# The Value of a Plan

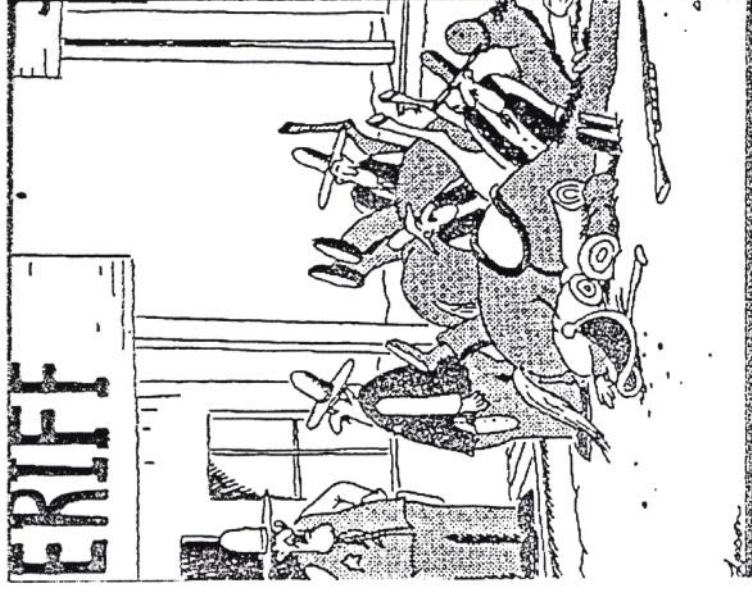
- Establishes Vision



"Think about it, Murray. ... If we could get this baby runnin', we could run over hikers, pick up females, chase down mule deer—man, we'd be the gizzlies from hell."

# The Value of a Plan

- Encourages Organization



"And so you just threw everything together ...  
Mathews, a posse is something  
you have to organize."



# The Value of a Plan

- Provides blueprint for success

How To Stop a Runaway Stage  
Method #1



# The Value of a Plan

- ...and the evaluation of alternatives

*Method # 2 (a)*



## The Risk

...BBC staff members ... of their jobs Thursday ... calling for Dyke's reinstatement. Many expressed fears that the resignations and the subsequent climb-down would do serious damage to the state-funded corporation's journalistic autonomy and integrity.

The two BBC leaders stepped down after a retired senior judge, Lord Brian Hutton, issued a report condemning BBC journalist Andrew Gillian.

... But ... sick, dies ... Financial ... annuities and business - just like ...

... Serv ... invest ... a good p ...

... MODERN WISDOMEN OF AMERICA ... Touching lives. Securing futures. ...

... Blair, who received full exoneration ...

## BEETLES BITE BOISE

Park closed indefinitely as authorities begin destruction of over 100 shade trees

## The Risk

...BBC staff members ... of their jobs Thursday ... calling for Dyke's reinstatement. Many expressed fears that the resignations and the subsequent climb-down would do serious damage to the state-funded corporation's journalistic autonomy and integrity.

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... But ... sick, dies ... Financial ... annuities and business - just like ...

... Serv ... invest ... a good p ...

... MODERN WISDOMEN OF AMERICA ... Touching lives. Securing futures. ...

... Blair, who received full exoneration ...

## BIG DAM PROBLEM

Mussels clog intake - Thousands lose power



[illegible]

## Use of Payette Lake Restricted - Exotic Weed to Blame

The ABC staff members met for their job Thursday morning, calling for Drine's resignation. They expressed concern that the resignations and the subsequent investigation would lead to serious damage to the state-funded corporation's financial resources and integrity.

The two BNC leaders stepped down after a rather tense session. Left Brian Martin, named a representative ABC journalist along with

up-

published a

at about last week's weapons of mass destruction exhibit at 43 minutes of an address.

In the ensuing discussion, a British weapons expert, David Kelly said he had spoken to Gillian but denied the reporter's mass allegations. Kelly later committed suicide, triggering the medical in-

Financial  
and  
business - plus the

a good p-

MARKS  
WOLFEIN  
D AMERICA

Talking Issues.  
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## Weeds Force Ranchers Out of Idaho, And Searching For New Rangeland

## How you can help

- Participate
- Make recommendations
- Provide Feedback during break-out session discussions

## Break-Out Sessions

- Terrestrial Weeds
- Aquatic and Riparian Nuisance Species
- Forest and Urban Pests
- Agricultural Pests



## Topics of Discussion

- What are we currently doing well?
  - How can we maximize our successful efforts?

## Topics of Discussion

- How can we improve our effectiveness in other, less successful efforts?

## Topics of Discussion

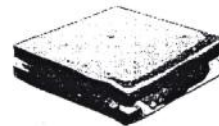
- What organizations and resources should be involved in the proactive management and control of invasive species?

## Topics of Discussion

- What does success look like in meeting the Invasive Species Challenge in Idaho?

## Meeting the challenge

- Success begins today



**You can only eat an  
elephant  
one sandwich  
at a time!**

**Keep chewin'!**



# **Speaker Biographies**

## **Governor Dirk Kempthorne**

Governor Dirk Kempthorne was reelected as Idaho's Governor in November of 2002. He was first elected as Idaho's 30th Chief Executive in 1998, following a successful six-year term in the United States Senate.

To ensure that Idaho's diversifying economy continues to expand, Governor Kempthorne has put forward initiatives to foster rural economic development, more overseas marketing of Idaho products, and greater integration of the state's scientific, educational, and business communities.

Dirk Kempthorne began his commitment to public service as the highly successful Mayor of Boise. During his seven years in office, he helped direct a renaissance in the state's capital city that resulted in record growth, economic development and numerous national honors and recognitions for quality of life, business climate and family issues.

As a Senator, he wrote, negotiated, and won passage of two major pieces of legislation: a bill to end unfunded federal mandates on state and local governments, and a substantial revision of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. He also worked to improve the quality of life for American active duty military personnel, reservists, their families, and veterans.

Idaho's children are Dirk Kempthorne's priority. Upon taking office, he declared the "Generation of the Child," to ensure that Idaho children are healthy and well educated.

Kempthorne established a statewide voluntary immunization registry, to help ensure that more Idaho children from birth to 18 months receive the full complement of vaccinations recommended by pediatricians. He also worked with the Legislature to enact an Idaho Reading Initiative, designed to have every Idaho child reading at grade level by the third grade.

Kempthorne also stepped up Idaho's fight against the growing scourge of drugs. The Legislature approved his measures to establish tougher mandatory sentences for those convicted of manufacturing methamphetamine, increase law enforcement's ability to detect and shut down drug labs, and provide education and drug treatment in prison.

Governor Kempthorne has worked to develop consensus on management of Idaho's and the West's natural resources. He has worked with his colleagues in Oregon, Washington and Montana to develop an historic bipartisan agreement on a state-based solution for returning salmon runs in the region.

Following the devastating wildfires of 2000, he worked with fellow western governors and federal officials to fundamentally change the approach to forest health and wildfire management.

Under his leadership, Idaho has developed wolf and grizzly bear management plans aimed at delisting the endangered species and protecting state's rights by giving the state management responsibilities.

Idaho has instituted the first-ever tax credit for companies that expand high-speed voice and data broadband communications lines, and the state has provided funding for regional economic development experts in 12 regions of the state. These professionals work with local communities to attract and retain businesses.

In his first three years in office, Gov. Kempthorne has signed into law 49 bills that have either provided significant tax relief or tax credits.

Governor Kempthorne has been recognized by his peers as a national leader. He is Vice Chairman of the National Governors Association, and will assume the Chairmanship this summer. He has served as President of the Council of State Governments and Chairman of the Western Governors Association. He serves on the Executive Committees of the National Governors Association and the Republican Governors Association, and U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige appointed Gov. Kempthorne to the National Assessment Governing Board.

Governor Kempthorne and his wife Patricia are both University of Idaho graduates and have two grown children, Heather and Jeff.





## Director Pat Takasugi

**Pat Takasugi** was first appointed the director of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture in March 1996, and then re-appointed by Governor Kempthorne in January 1999. Pat continues to farm over 1,300 irrigated row crop acres of alfalfa seed, onions, wheat, peas seed and garden bean seed near Wilder and Homedale. Pat is a 54-year resident of Idaho and a 27-year third generation farmer. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Albertson's College of Idaho in 1971, Pat served five years active service and five years reserve service in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of Captain. While in active service, Pat served as a Green Beret A-Team commander in the U.S. Special Forces, 10<sup>th</sup> Group. Pat and his wife, Suzanne, have three children; Taylor, Cole and Paige.

### **Present Ag Commitments**

- President - Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA)
- Board of Directors - National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
- Chairman - Governor's Idaho Invasive Species Council
- Member - The Farm Foundation - Bennett's Roundtable
- Member - University of Idaho, College of Agriculture, Dean's Advisory Board
- Member - College of Southern Idaho, Agriculture Advisory Board

### **Past Ag Group Affiliations and Positions Held:**

- President - National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
- Chairman - U.S.-Canada Working Group, advisory to U.S. Trade Representative
- President - Idaho Crop Improvement Association (ICIA)
- President - Northwest Alfalfa Seed Growers Association (2 terms)
- President - Idaho Alfalfa and Clover Seed Growers Association (3 terms)
- President - Canyon County Farm Bureau (3 terms)
- Chairman - Idaho Alfalfa Seed Commission (IASC)

### **Agricultural Awards:**

- Idaho Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher - 1<sup>st</sup> Place (1979)
- Idaho Jaycees Outstanding Young Farmer of Idaho - 1<sup>st</sup> Place (1981)
- Idaho Crop Improvement Association Outstanding Service Award (1991)
- Albertson College of Idaho - Distinguished Alumni Service Award (1996)
- Idaho Co-op Hall of Fame - Idaho Co-op Council (2000)
- Outstanding Republican Administrator - State GOP (2000)
- University of Idaho - Distinguished Associate Alumni Award (2003)

### **Objectives:**

- To work with all Idaho commodity organizations in proactive partnership problem-solving.
- To promote and educate consumers about Idaho agriculture.
- To efficiently administer the department in a business-like manner.



## **Rep. Darrell Bolz**

Darrell Bolz was born in Ontario, Oregon and graduated from Fruitland High School. After graduation he journeyed north to Moscow to pursue his degree in higher education, at the University of Idaho. He graduated with both a Bachelor and a Masters of Science in Agriculture Education. After college, Darrell served in the U.S. Navy.

Upon returning from his military service he was employed as an Extension Educator for the University of Idaho. Bolz retired from U of I Extension in Canyon County. He has served as a member and leader of various organizations including Nampa Chamber of Commerce, Nampa Countryman's Club, Food Producers of Idaho, Gideon's, and the University of Idaho Alumni Board. He has received many awards for his service to Idaho including the Governor's Award for Excellence in Agriculture in the area of Educational Advocacy, Canyon County Pomona Grange Public Service Award of Idaho, Idaho Alumni Service Award, Idaho Cooperative Council Hall of Fame, Idaho Statesman Distinguished Citizen Award and most recently the Idaho Weed Control Hall of Fame Award.

Darrell currently is serving as a State Representative from District 10 in Canyon County as well as serving as an Agriculture Consultant. He and his wife, Carol, have two grown children, Debbie and Devin. Representative Bolz serves as a member of the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee and the House Agricultural Affairs Committee.

**Ron Hiebert, Research Coordinator NPS and Adjunct Professor, Environmental Sciences, NAU**

**Contact Information**

Phone: (928) 523-0877

E-Mail: [Ron.Hiebert@nau.edu](mailto:Ron.Hiebert@nau.edu)

**Professional Preparation**

Southwest Oklahoma State University, Biology, BS, 1968

University of Kansas, Botany, MS, 1975

University of Kansas, Botany, Ph.D, 1977



**Activities and Research Interests**

Facilitate research and technical assistance for National Park Service areas on the Colorado Plateau and multi-agency and multidisciplinary ecosystem research. Specific interest in promoting productive partnerships between researchers and land managers. Research interests include ecological restoration, invasive plants, and conservation biology.

**Selected Publications**

Cully, AC, JF Cully and RD Hiebert. The effects of fragmentation, size, species diversity, and seasonality on invasion of Tallgrass Prairie by non-native plant species. Conservation Biology (in press).

Hiebert, R. and R. Harms. 2002. Reducing the risk of spread of weeds across borders. Pp 57-61 in Weeds Across Borders Proceedings of a North American Conference held at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson, Arizona.

Alien Plant Ranking System. Version 5.1. 2000. Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center. Home Page <http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/2000/aprs/aprs.htm>.

Hiebert, R. 1996. Prioritizing invasive plants for management. Pp. 195-214. In Assessment and Management of Invasive Plants., J. Luken and J Thieret, Ed. Springer, NY.

Hiebert, RD and J. Stubbendieck. 1993. Handbook for ranking exotic plants for management and control. USDI, National Park Service Natural Resource Report. NPS/NRMWRO/NRR-93/08. 29 pp.



## JOSEPH M. HINSON

Joseph M. Hinson is the founding member of the Northwest Natural Resource Group. Hinson holds a degree in Forest Resource Management from West Virginia University (1971). His early career included employment with the USDA, Forest Service in West Virginia and Montana. From 1973-1976, Hinson was land management supervisor, The Chesapeake Corporation, in Pocomoke City, Maryland. In that capacity, he was responsible for site preparation, reforestation, drainage and road construction on over 100,000 acres of company timberland.

In 1977, Hinson became the director of private forestry programs with the National Forest Products Association in Washington, D.C., the governmental affairs arm of the forest products industry. In that position, he was responsible for developing and coordinating the forest industry's national efforts to enhance the management of nonindustrial, privately owned forestlands. He was the principal author of "America Grows on Trees: The Promise of Private Nonindustrial Forests".

Immediately prior to the forming the Northwest Natural Resource Group, Hinson was Executive Vice President, Intermountain Forest Industry Association, the organization representing wood product manufacturers and industrial timber growers throughout the northern Rockies (1982-1997). In that capacity, Hinson led the industry in numerous regulatory, legislative and legal issues at both state and national levels. He has authored or had substantial involvement in over thirty laws, ranging from measures to improve the state's timber management program to the creation of Idaho's Forest Products Commission as a means to enhance public knowledge of forest management.

During his years as a lobbyist, Hinson has offered testimony on contentious issues before numerous legislative, administrative and regulatory bodies on over one hundred separate occasions. These include various committees of the United States Congress, numerous committees of the Idaho Legislature, the Idaho Board of Land Commissioners, the Idaho Board of Health and Welfare, and the Environmental Protection Agency. During his tenure with Intermountain Forest Industry Association, Hinson represented that group in developing the industry's legal strategy as a named intervener defendant in two major cases; ISC, et. al. v. Browner and the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association v. the Idaho Board of Land Commissioners.

A skilled negotiator, Hinson was named by former Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus to represent the timber industry on the seven-person group (including industry, environmental, sport fishing and tribal interests), which successfully negotiated the process to implement the state's "antidegradation" policy. In 1995, he was heavily involved in developing comprehensive legislation to revamp the state's program of surface water quality protection (39-3600, Idaho Code). Elements of this legislation include citizen involvement in the oversight of program and a scientifically based monitoring process to determine the quality of the state's water. Hinson's group also sought increases in the state's capabilities to enforce measures to protect water quality during logging.

Hinson lives in Weiser, Idaho, and also helps in his wife's family's large sheep and cattle ranching operation near there.



## **RICK COLLIGNON**

Rick Collignon began his career in the parks and recreation field in 1974 with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Park. During his 26 year career in South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks he served in the capacity of a Grant Coordinator, State Park Manager and Regional Park Manager and Assistant Director for the Division of Parks and Recreation. He and his wife Barb moved to Idaho in April of 2000 as the first Region Manager for the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation in eastern Idaho. Following the retirement of Director Yvonne Ferrell, he was named Director of the agency in May of 2001. Collignon holds a Bachelors degree in Parks and Recreation and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of South Dakota. Rick's interest in the outdoors is both professional and personal and like most Idahoans, covers a full range of year round outdoor interests.

**Breakout Summaries  
and  
Capstone Remarks**



## Agricultural Invasive Species Fact Sheet

### Introduction

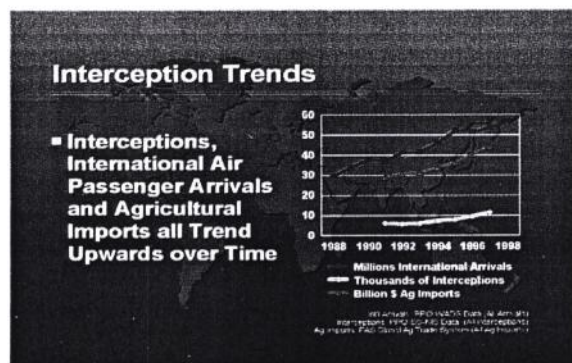
A large part of Idaho's economy depends on agriculture. This sector generates \$3.9 billion in cash receipts at the farm level from more than 144 commodities. A host of invasive insects, weeds, and pathogens threaten Idaho's diversified agriculture. Survey and management efforts against invasive species are a major challenge to Gem State farmers and processors. Export-sensitive crops such as seeds must undergo Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) field inspections for invasive pests as part of an export certification process.

### Existing and Potential Invaders

Several pest lists help invasive species managers prioritize threats to Idaho's crop and livestock industries. ISDA Plant Industries Division maintains a Plant Pest Watch List that includes 41 plant pathogens, 30 insects and 6 terrestrial mollusks. Cereal leaf beetle (*Oulema melanopus*) has invaded 37 of 44 counties and is hurting Idaho's important small grains industry. *Ralstonia*, brown rot of potatoes, is a potentially devastating bacterial disease as yet undetected in Idaho. It could drastically alter the potato industry if infection occurred in key production areas.

### What's at Risk

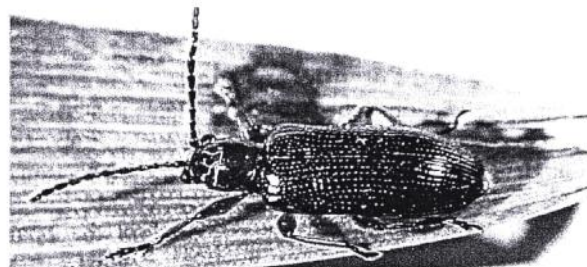
With the tremendous increase in passenger travel and interstate and global commerce, interceptions of pests and plant materials at ports of entry has increased at an alarming rate. Invasive species impact both commodity yields and quality. New exotic pests could increase production costs and risk the loss of important export markets.



### Current Efforts

ISDA and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) are responsible for survey, detection and management of invasive agricultural pests. These

agencies cooperate under federal and state laws to mitigate invasive species impacts on agriculture in Idaho and nationally. They conduct detection surveys annually for high-risk invasive species. Coordinated eradication is their first response to a new invader. If a pest becomes established, the agencies often use biocontrol to suppress the species.



Biocontrol efforts are ongoing to suppress cereal leaf beetle.

### Key Players and Their Roles

USDA APHIS and ISDA Division of Plant Industries run coordinated efforts to protect Idaho agriculture from emerging pests. Both agencies conduct detection and surveillance surveys for numerous insects, plant pathogens and parasitic nematodes. Both work with producers and commodity organizations to establish programs that reduce the spread of exotics and damage to impacted industries. These private sector interests are key partners in detecting, reporting, and controlling agricultural invasive species. The Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey (CAPS) and the National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS) are two critical foundations to the federal-state partnership in invasive species management.



Brown rot of potato poses a serious threat to Idaho's lead commodity.

For more information, contact:  
Ben Simko, ISDA (208) 332-8620



## Agricultural Pests

### Q – What are we currently doing well and what are the signs of success?

*The group established a benchmark by describing the word “invasive”. An all inclusive range or non-native ag pests including animal husbandry, crop pests, parasitic weeds and insects (not including human pests) that negatively impact agriculture.*

- BSE issues management – consumer confidence/beef demand is recovering/steady.
- Certified Seed and Export Seed programs work well – ability to eradicate and manage diseases, disease and pest surveillance system works well. There appears to be strong cooperation of federal, state and university working together. Improvements could be made but signs of good interagency cooperation on issues.
- Good level of knowledge in the industry – producers recognize pests.
- Good interdiction efforts – pine cones, ralstonia in geraniums, scarecrows, Christmas trees, birdhouses.
- Quarantine enforcement – white rot control order in onions, Japanese beetles, European corn borer, brucellosis.
- Idaho zoonotic diseases working group – sharing information, outreach & education to public, sharing resources for emergency response.
- Integrated pest management including bio control.
- Successful Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's).

*The group asked if grasshoppers and Mormon crickets should be included. The conclusion was that they are not included in the definition of “invasive” because they are native to Idaho.*

### Q – How can we improve our effectiveness? (prevention and pathways)

- Certified seed program – review protocol for trace back and trace forward when problems occur. Example: A case of “certified” alfalfa seed was contaminated with yellow starthistle. This should not have been certified in the first place. Some things will still slip through the system. What should happen next?
- Interagency (state, federal, extension, county, research, etc.) Communication and cooperation needs improvement – routine information from the feds with better filtering of the information. Avoid information overload but have risk filters for plant pests in place. New pest protocol needs improvement. “Hit lists” are needed. Continuing education component – new researchers may not know who to contact when new species are discovered.
- Producer reluctance to report, needs to improve. This includes resolving the liability issues and financial loss. Provide authority/funding for government compensation to producers. There are currently no incentives to report plant pests. Nationally the animal identification system may resolve some animal related issues. Encourage producers to participate in a 48 hour trace-back and trace-forward in all types of ag commodities. There needs to be improved enforcement of imported items (seeds).
- Forty eight-hour trace back. Encourage participation in federal and state identification program. Educate producers (plant and animal).
- Provide adequate resources for common modes of monitoring/surveillance. Funding is always an issue especially with rapid response. Trouble-shoot scenarios for drafting emergency requests for funding, MOU's, plans, assistance, incidence response plan.
- No comprehensive plan exists to tie agencies together. There is a need for a specific and expanded emergency response plan for each pest as they are identified.

**Q – What organizations and resources should be involved and what are their probable roles?**

- ISDA, USDA, Idaho Brand Board, veterinarians – should be involved in animal ID programs.
- ISDA enforcement actions, APHIS, private industry, customs and border patrol, and ports of entry, Commerce – involved in seed certification, improved enforcement on imports of agriculture commodities.
- University research and extension, Idaho Crop Improvement Association – involved in surveillance, education and outreach, developing detection methods, developing pest management programs.
- Retailers – listen and learn who to report problems to. Need to take a more responsible role in the area of education, enforcement of infractions, and public compliance.
- Consumers (homeowners and ag producers) - consumer awareness and education.
- New -- potential check-off from protected industries. Already existing are Homeland Security, state and federal government, USDA. There is a need to leverage and secure funds.

**Q – What does success look like in meeting the invasive species challenge?**

- Success is difficult to measure.
- Monitor clean zones to determine no new pests.
- Measure success as a comparison to historical invasions.
- Create the baseline, track the rate of invasion or spread, decline of new and existing agriculture pests compared to historical levels of invasions in Idaho.
- Compare Idaho's situation to neighboring states.



*Meeting the Challenge: The Governor's Summit on Invasive Species*

# Aquatic and Riparian Nuisance Species

## Fact Sheet

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### Introduction

A host of aquatic and riparian invasive species threaten Idaho's waterways and the activities associated with them. From Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) in the north to saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.) in the south, our rivers, lakes, reservoirs, and canals are at risk statewide.

### Existing and Potential Invaders

Eurasian watermilfoil, an aquatic plant, is starting to clog Payette Lake and other waters, impacting anglers, boaters, and swimmers. The first detection of New Zealand mudsnails (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*) in the nation occurred in the Snake River. Since then, these prolific mollusks have colonized key trout streams from Silver Creek to the Madison River. Saltcedar's long taproots allow it to intercept deep water tables and interfere with natural aquatic systems. Salt released from its tissues may make soils unsuitable for native plants.

If the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) reaches Idaho, it could cost millions annually at hydropower, water supply, and irrigation facilities. Silver and bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys* spp.) could have serious ecological impacts. These carp behave erratically around watercraft and could pose hazards to boaters and water skiers.



**Zebra mussels  
can clog a four-  
inch pipe.**

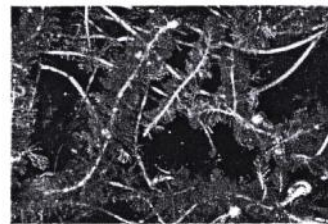
### What's at Risk

Further aquatic infestations by undesired plants, fish and other species will result in decreased recreational opportunities for boaters, anglers, hunters and others who enjoy water-related activities. Decreased recreational activities will negatively impact local economies.

Organisms such as zebra mussels and Eurasian milfoil can clog water supply systems resulting in increased costs to water users. Zebra mussels can attach and grow on nearly all wet substrates, resulting in increased maintenance costs for irrigators, from

water intakes to sprinkler heads. Zebra mussels could also coat fish passage screens and fish ladders in the Snake and Columbia Rivers resulting in increased injuries and mortalities for salmon and steelhead.

These and other potential invasive species can compete with or prey on native species resulting in the potential for additional petitions to list new species under the federal Endangered Species Act.



**Eurasian  
watermilfoil  
forms dense  
mats.**

### Current Efforts

Existing programs to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species include a 2003 assessment of Idaho water bodies for Eurasian watermilfoil, control projects for purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and an upcoming project to post educational signs at marinas statewide. In addition to efforts in Idaho, regional groups such as the 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Initiative and the Western Regional Panel of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force are implementing education and monitoring programs to prevent the spread of zebra mussels into the western United States.

### Key Players and Their Roles

Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG) has primary responsibility for permitting imports and monitoring fish and wildlife in Idaho. Idaho Parks and Recreation manages the state's boating program. Counties like Kootenai, Valley and Ada where Eurasian watermilfoil occurs are actively engaged in aquatic invasive species management. Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) regulates the aquaculture industry and the importation of deleterious exotic animals. IDFG and ISDA are the lead agencies in developing a state ANS Plan.

*For more information, contact:*  
Fred Partridge, IDFG (208) 287-2773



## **Aquatic and Riparian Nuisance Species**

*The facilitator in this session asked for everyone to complete one of the following three sentences regarding invasive species. 1) I'm surprised by.....2) I'm concerned with..... or 3) I've recently learned.....*

*The responses by participants were as follows:*

- *Lack of public understanding and awareness.*
- *Funding sources are inadequate.*
- *Detection of New Zealand mudsnails at Silver Creek Preserve.*
- *Invasive species have enormous impacts.*
- *Red tape involved in solving problems. No such thing as a rapid response given current regulatory requirements.*
- *Eurasian Watermilfoil impacts on fisheries and irrigation.*
- *Lack of public knowledge re: noxious weeds.*
- *We need education of boaters and public in general.*
- *How do we get the message out?*
- *We don't see aquatic species until there is a problem.*
- *We need mapping ASAP to track invasive species – will make response easier.*
- *USFS invasive species strategy will be out within the next two months or so.*
- *There is a difference between court cases in the western and eastern portions of the US.*
- *Lack of cooperation between state and federal agencies.*
- *Meeting turnout will hopefully increase support for efforts.*

### **Q – What are we currently doing well and what are the signs of success?**

- *Eurasian Watermilfoil Taskforce – we successfully got all the players together and in a very short period of time. We made a fast assessment of water bodies where the species was present. A total of 66 bodies of water were surveyed and 60% of the counties responded with information.*
- *Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign – toolkits distributed to junior high schools.*
- *CWMA's – getting a handle on what's going on, they have influence.*
- *Milfoil Signage – 1500 signs to be distributed at boat access points.*
- *Eastern/Southern Idaho Assessment*
- *Idaho Department of Fish and Game – involvement by the agency in nuisance species is appreciated.*
- *Awareness information in hunting and fishing regulations – these materials are read by many hunters and anglers.*
- *Partnership between noxious weeds and invasives - collaborative efforts help everyone involved.*
- *Purple Loosestrife Partnership – hoping this strategy continues into Eurasian, bio-control.*
- *National Invasive Species Week – Idaho will be represented.*
- *Idaho Weed Control Association – annual meeting and cooperation from association.*
- *Invasive Species Council – positive that we have one to address issues.*

### **Q – How can we improve our effectiveness?**

*The group discussed considering action plans from other states. Oregon and Montana were given as examples. A working document is available from Montana and looking on the internet to identify resource needs would be advisable.*

## **Prevention and Pathways:**

- Get aquarium trade involved.
- Process to approve things that aren't on prohibited list.
- Action plan that consists of clearly identifiable tasks, who's involved etc. (Montana example).
- Identify high risks species that Idaho wants to prevent and or watch for.
- Get aquaculture involved.
- Signage needs to be better for Milfoil, brighter, larger lettering to GET ATTENTION. Tell people what do to their boats to prevent the spread.
- Are projected costs accurate?
- Fines for not following spread precautions. Regulations. Approach Legislature to accomplish rules and regulations for enforcement.
- Boater education should be required (mandatory) and enforced – Washington's Legislature is exploring this now.
- Port of Lewiston, watch this pathway, inspect barges, etc.
- Cooperation with Army Corps of Engineers – Lake Cascade is a good example.
- Roadsides/waterways should be watched with regards to riparian weeds.
- Waterfowl can be a source of Milfoil – how do we handle this?
- Ada County Weed Control can not get permission to control Milfoil b/c 9<sup>th</sup> District Court Ruling, even if they had funds available to do the job – Talent Irrigation District court case: NPDES permit is required for water treatment.
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Permit (HACCP), risk assessment of chances of transferring species to new areas – should be required.
- We need regulations instead of voluntary participation. Currently a lack of compliance and knowledge.
- Field staff of all agencies must be trained to spot invasive species with a system in place to answer questions like “who do we report our findings to? Who is responsible? Who does the monitoring and follow-up?”
- Ponds are a source of aquatic species.

## **Early Detection / Rapid Response:**

- 2- 10 years – inadequate. We need a better definition of rapid response.
- Field staff of (IDFG, Parks and Recreation, etc) should be trained to identify invasive species. We should target specific species.
- Firm and defined structure to implement weed control. How do you report what has been found, to whom, who takes action, who does follow-up? Establish time frames.
- Have a single phone number/contact point for recording invasive species. Does Roger Batt have this available? Need to get the word out and make the phone number a household word throughout Idaho.
- Need a swifter process to identify weeds. Sometimes it can take years to get DNA information or positive ID work back from labs. Develop a list of taxonomic experts for weeds vs. pests and aquatic vs. snail. Case in point – it took Valley County three years for DNA identification of Watermilfoil in Payette Lake – inadequate!
- Review laws and make them more flexible, quicker response. If a weed is not on the list, you can identify but can't act (need to change). What can you do if a weed is not on the list? How do you declare a weed a problem?
- Tools to deal with aquatic weeds need to be at least as tough as for other invasive species.
- Does the Plant Pest Act cover aquatic weeds? There has been action to try and attach invasive species to the Plant Pest Act. We still need legislative action.
- Look to BLM, Forest Service how to have a rapid response – they have experience.



- All agencies have to be involved. If anyone is missing the process falls apart.
- Legal definitions and interpretations vary from county to county – inconsistency makes a joint effort difficult.
- Right to inspect? Weeds, yes, invasive species, no.

#### **Education & Awareness:**

- Get more TV ads. Also news/newspaper coverage which can be inexpensive,
- Present to Elementary Schools, Kids in turn will take the message home to parents.
- Hands on projects. Example: Frank Church Weed Control Volunteer Trip.
- Website on invasive aquatic weeds with basic and technical information available – the website must be able to answer simple questions related to invasives.
- Education strategies. Example: What types of freebies to get (pencils, stickers, etc).
- Mechanism to put volunteers to use. List of who can use people, who are available.
- Get an actual idea of who we've really reached. Who has taken our message to heart?
- Conservation Field Day like the one in Elmore County.
- Adopt a Highway concept. The boat club has already done this with 2 river sections.
- Oregon Invasive Species Council strategy – lots of ideas there to copy.
- Need volunteers, education awareness.
- Monitoring success? Past efforts.
- Surveys of general public?

#### **Coordination:**

- Look at some of the outreach efforts other states have done (Hawaii).
- Coordinate state efforts with scheduling, timing issues.
- Don't reinvent the wheel. Get research information from other states and assess if it could work for Idaho.
- Coordinate Milfoil divers – get the same divers to work for several groups – have divers look for other invasives (mussels) while under water.
- Coordinate federal and state efforts.
- Coordination with irrigation groups, Idaho Power, ditch riders, hydro groups and private groups (boaters).
- Western Regional Panel needs an Idaho representative, currently there is not one.
- Need more funding to carry out programs – especially where and when we need quick action.
- Big legal problems exist with NPDES requirements.
- Need a good contact list of all agencies involved in the process.

#### **Q – What organizations and resources should be involved and what are their probable roles?**

- Army Corp of Engineers – consent for them to get onboard.
- Governor, Legislature – dedicated source of funding for programs. Boat registration might be a possibility or general fund money.
- Bureau of Reclamation – monitor reservoirs sites and dams.
- Idaho Power, utilities, other water groups.
- Irrigation districts
- US Forest Service
- CWMAS
- Idaho Fish & Game and 12 states for aquatic nuisances.
- Private landowners



- Cities
- Watershed councils, water resource groups
- Cattlemen, sheep ranchers, users of the rangelands.
- Nurseries and aquaculture
- Farmers and ranchers
- Other neighboring states
- Pet trade
- Private foundations
- US Coast Guard
- General public and volunteers
- Outfitters and guides
- Environmental agencies – EPA and DEQ
- Idaho Boaters Association, National Assoc. of Boating Law Administrators
- 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court
- National Aquatics Species Task Force
- County governments
- Idaho Weed Control Association
- Non-governmental organizations
- Universities and colleges

**Q – What does success look like in meeting the invasive species challenge?**

**Vision statement:**

- Media coverage measures success – what sort of attention does the subject get?
- Prevention of zebra mussels and other species; overall and in new areas.
- Decrease of acres infested i.e. 5 acres infested vs 200 acres = success.
- Risk assessment involved in actions.
- Assessment of level of increased understanding. Ex: BSU annual survey.
- Realize that we are now checking more areas, so acreage could look like it is increasing.
- Indicators for outcome – Payette Lake problem eradicated.
- Education strategy: survey of where public knowledge began vs where end result.
- If rapid response plan (QUICK) is in place.
- Follow-up system: example – DEQ setup for hazardous waste is a good model.

**Goals:**

- Control areas
- Follow-up on action items. Are we successful? Need this information for presenting facts to the Legislature.
- Added pressure on government to increase activity on weed control.
- Truly rapid response program in place and not just rhetoric. We may already have some good examples like DEQ Hazardous Material Response.
- Recognition and awards of individuals who are making a difference
- LOGIC model from the University of Idaho.
- Legislation to allow education, response and prevention – development of adequate laws.

## Forest and Urban Pests Fact Sheet

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### Introduction

A number of forest insect and disease pests threaten Idaho's forests, both wild and urban. Examples include the European gypsy moth and its Asian form (*Lymantria dispar* spp.), both of which have the potential to cause extensive damage to urban forests and to certain conifer species. Numerous woodborers and bark beetles have high potential of causing damage, if introduced. Pathways for introduction are many. The recent discovery of the banded elm bark beetle (*Scolytus schevyrewi* Semenov), a killer of elm trees, near Twin Falls demonstrates the reality of the threat. Many of these pests pose a threat statewide.

### Existing and Potential Invaders

Several exotic forest pests have been introduced and are causing extensive ecological and economic damage. Examples include white pine blister rust (*Cronartium ribicola*) that has decimated stands of western white pine, and the balsam woolly adelgid (*Adelges piceae*) that has killed and continues to kill thousands of subalpine fir from Coeur d'Alene to Cascade. Other introduced pests appear to have reached a point of equilibrium, and while present, are not causing extensive damage. These include the larch casebearer (*Coleophora laricella*) and the European pine shoot moth (*Rhyacionia buoliana*).

The greatest threats to the urban and wild forests come from the wood-boring insects such as the Asian gypsy moth, the Asian long-horned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) and diseases like sudden oak death (*Phytophthora ramorum*), recently found killing thousands of trees in California. These species and near relatives have the potential to kill thousands of trees, disrupting ecological balances, commerce, and aesthetic values.

### What's at Risk

Both urban and wild forests and trees are at risk from these exotic invaders. Urban ornamental trees have high intrinsic values for shade, removal of air pollution, noise reduction, and general aesthetics. Death of these trees causes highly undesirable conditions, as can be seen in the following photo where urban trees have been cut in an attempt to prevent further damage.



Removal of urban trees infested with Asian Long-horned beetle.

Wildland forests can be severely damaged with impacts to timber, recreation, ecological systems, and water quality. Invasives can also increase the potential for wild fires. Blister rust has reduced the proportion of western white pine in many Idaho forests from over 30% historically to less than 5% today.

### Current Efforts

Successful research programs have developed genetically resistant western white pine for use in restoring this species to its historic levels. Surveys are conducted state-wide for some introduced pests, such as the gypsy moth, and when found there are rapid response efforts to eradicate established populations. State and federal agencies coordinate these efforts and alert the public so that they might serve as a detection force.

### Key Players and Their Roles

Numerous agencies cooperate in efforts to monitor for and prevent introductions of exotic urban and forest pests including U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), U.S. Forest Service, and Idaho Departments of Lands and Agriculture. Coordination is also ongoing with city foresters around the state.

*For more information, contact:*

Ladd Livingston

Idaho Department of Lands (208) 769-1525



## Forest and Urban Pests

### Q– What are we currently doing well and what are the signs of our success?

- Gypsy Moth Survey – a cooperative effort among USFS, UI, ID Dept. of Transp., ISDA, and IDL. Ladd Livingston is a point person for this effort. The survey covers the state, particularly at the rural and urban interface. This effort has identified and successfully eradicated three established infestations of gypsy moths. It costs about \$75,000 per year. There was an explanation of how the agencies attract and trap wood-boring beetles.
- IDL and APHIS partnership to detect and control wood-boring beetles and bark beetles. This effort focuses on the Port of Lewiston, but struggles to obtain adequate funding. Sign of success: identification of a new bark beetle which has never been found before in the state (Twin Falls incident).
- Forester forum on IDL web page that describes insects and pathogens. Includes useful information on invasive (non-native) species and native species that sometimes cause problems.
- Notices and advisories from APHIS regarding new and expanding invasive species. The group agreed that these advisories contain useful information, but we need to work on better distribution to key constituencies such as nursery owners.
- Detection flights by USFS and IDL for white pine blister rust.
- Ground surveys of balsam woolly adelgid. BWA is present in most subalpine fir communities and is having a big impact. Large populations have been identified.
- Local efforts (e.g. City of Boise) to detect and control European elm bark beetle (vector for Dutch elm disease), pine shoot moth, and lilac ash borer. They use pheromone surveys and have been successful in reducing the spread of Dutch elm disease. There has been a noted decline in Dutch elm disease and improvement in sanitation procedures.
- ISDA Plant Pest Watch List that lists a number of potential threats.

### Q – How can we improve our effectiveness?

#### Prevention and Pathways

- Need to keep in touch with other states and federal agencies as to their monitoring programs and processes to improve education (for example with sudden oak death). Forums for such coordination could include a regional meeting for northwest agricultural inspectors and through the Idaho Nurserymen Association. Also an expanded alert network.
- Increase funding for inspections of shipping containers at the Port of Lewiston.
- Look at process through which educational efforts are developed.
- Improved regional and other annual meetings for coordination.
- Increase APHIS funding.
- Expand Ag Alert program.
- Improve education of newcomers to Idaho. Many people moving in could be carrying invasives in their belongings.
- Improve education and training of nursery and landscape workers. Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association represents more than 200 businesses with over 12,000 employees. These employees could be deployed as an early detection network across the state.
- Train field staff of various state agencies to identify the symptoms of infestations (not necessarily to identify individual species).



- Create a central clearinghouse for information.
- There is a need to increase the flow of invasive species information up and down the chain, from workers on the ground, to policy makers. The Invasive Species Council should play a role in bringing people together. Increasing coordination should include gaining the buy-in and support of various user groups.
- Create a Forest and Urban subcommittee of the ISC.
- Prioritize a short list of species for prevention, early detection and rapid response.
- Prioritize specific geographic areas for survey and control. This approach is for protecting key un-invaded areas.
- Provide Incentives, effective public education, and assistance for small growers.
- Take monetary value out and develop strict policies.
- There is more than nursery stock bringing invasive species in, including mobile population, tourism, large retailers, goods being shipped into/through Idaho with little inspection, bird migration, and river movement.

#### **Early Detection/Rapid Response:**

- Use state resources to have better information instate for new residents.
- Train all staff to look for problems and help expand education base.
- Prioritize which species can get the most reaction, and the activities that can prevent these. Prioritize and target specific areas.
- Help ability for industry to distinguish problem pests from native pests.
- Look at where people go and provide a central location for information and questions. USFS, Extension office, community forester, and Idaho Department of Lands.

#### **Education/Awareness:**

- Educate as far as recognizing characteristics as problems, and who to contact for further action.
- Provide realtors with brief information sheet to distribute to new residents.
- Educate all stakeholders – master gardeners, GPS holders, horsemen, sportsmen, community gardeners, Department of Parks and Recreation, Fish and Game.

#### **Coordination:**

- Tough issue – biggest problem.
- One coordinator for the entire state as main contact for municipalities. Someone to sit down with all entities for discussion and help tailor for entities.
- People out for detection.
- Idaho Invasive Species Council bringing everyone together.
- Improve funding.
- Restrictions: resources, people, funding – how do we overcome these?
- Spread information within agencies.
- Flow of information to go both ways, make important to everyone.
- A forest subcommittee of the ISC could help with flow of information.
- Simple, centralized web site for information or reporting.

#### **Q – What organizations and resources should be involved and what are their probable roles?**

- Extension offices, University outreach – education and research.
- Federal, state, county government – policies, enforcement, monitoring, education and research.
- Federal and state legislation – policies, dedicated funding.

- Private industry, nursery, landscaping and timber industries – funding, personnel, education, detection.
- Municipalities – education, detection, sanitation, local policies/enforcement.
- Manufacturing industry – education, research, inspection, and regulation.
- Transportation industry – education, research, inspection, prevention.
- Non-profit organizations – education, detection, funding, prevention, research.
- Recreation/Tourism Industry groups – awareness, funding, education, and outreach.
- FFA, Ag in the Classroom, 4-H, Idaho Forest Products Commission, Back Country Horsemen, Western Whitewater Association, Blue Ribbon Coalition – education.
- Native American Tribes – coordination, education, implementation.
- Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association
- Youth Corps
- Garden Clubs
- Private landowners – non industrial private forest owners – education.
- Business associations – awareness and education.
- Realtors association – awareness, education.
- Boy and Girl Scouts – identification.
- Society of Scientific Researchers – research and clearing house.

**Q – What does success look like in meeting the invasive species challenge?**

**Vision statement**

- Overall coordination to address efficiencies, priorities, funding and communication.
- Diminished size and number of established invasive species, no more new invasive species.
- More concentration at detection level, awareness of new invaders.
- More people on the ground.
- Education
- Prevention, limiting damage.
- Early detection, rapid response.
- Prioritize species and sites for most-focused efforts.
- Avoiding worst case scenarios.
- Protection of sites that have not yet been invaded.
- Correct problem completely, environmental restoration.
- Dedicated and stable funding.
- Studying long-term effects.
- Better research and constant evaluation of progress.
- Science-based approaches to management.



## Terrestrial Weeds

### Fact Sheet

#### Introduction

Idaho currently is home to more than 480 exotic plant species. Most of these species are not a risk to our economic or environmental well-being. However, 84 of these species are listed as noxious weeds in other western states; only 36 are on Idaho's noxious weed list. We are building our capacity to detect and attack new invading species. Developing a formal detection and reporting network is a key priority in Idaho's weed management program.

#### Existing and Potential Invaders

Invasive annual grasses such as downy brome (*Bromus tectorum*), also known as cheatgrass, have reshaped the landscape of the Great Basin in Idaho. Downy brome now dominates vast sagebrush grasslands, increasing the fire frequency and reducing sagebrush communities and associated native species. Hoary cress (*Lepidium draba*) has colonized riparian areas and caused losses to the seed industry in the Treasure Valley.



Downy brome has infested millions of acres in Idaho.

New species also have the potential to change the landscape. We have new species entering Idaho each year like *Hypericum maculatum*, a close relative of St. John's Wort, once called the scourge of the West. *Hypericum maculatum* has the potential to dominate riparian systems. Others like lesser hawkbit (*Leontodon taraxacoides*) have entered into landscape plantings in Bonners Ferry and Boise and are poised to harm the landscape industry. Others like black horehound (*Ballota nigra*) could harm our wetter shrub grasslands and annual croplands.

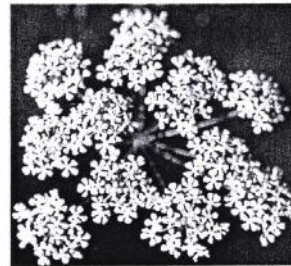
#### What's at Risk

Idahoans take pride in the natural beauty and productive landscapes found here. Recreation is a growing industry in Idaho and this sector is negatively impacted by invasive plant species. Ranchers count on livestock forage at risk from competition from invading plants. Some invaders like poison hemlock can poison livestock and people. Our forestry industry also must contend with species like Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) that compete

with tree seedlings for necessary resources. Our nursery industry is also hurt by invasive plant species like hawkweeds. Farmers also are affected by species like rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*) that impact both rangeland and crops.

#### Current Efforts

People across Idaho have banded together to deal with invasive plants, forming local Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's). They are sharing expertise and resources to combat invasive plants. CWMA's include federal, tribal and state land managers; conservationists; farmers and ranchers; weed superintendents; university, extension, and USDA-ARS researchers; and pesticide industry technical advisors. Idaho CWMA's treated weeds across 170,000 acres last year, not counting individual and agency programs. At least 8 eradication projects are underway and additional projects are warranted to permanently remove species occupying small acreages.



Poison hemlock is toxic to people and livestock.

John Randall photo

#### Key Players and Their Roles

Key players include CWMA participants, whose efforts are often coordinated through county weed superintendents. The Bureau of Land Management, State of Idaho, and U.S. Forest Service all contribute funds to make CWMA efforts possible. Efforts statewide are aided by the Noxious Weed Coordinator at ISDA. Research and extension personnel provide research-based answers to key management problems. Professional groups like the Idaho Association of County Weed Superintendents, Idaho Weed Control Association, Idaho Weed Coordinating Committee and Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign serve advisory, education, and outreach functions.

For more information, contact:

Tim Prather, Univ. of Idaho (208) 885-9246



## Terrestrial Weeds #1

*Before discussion began, a question was posed: Does the term "terrestrial weed" include trees and shrubs? Experts agreed in the affirmative.*

### **Q – What are we currently doing well and what are the signs of success?**

- The Noxious Weed-Free Forage and Straw program requiring certification is extremely helpful in controlling the spread of invasive species in the backcountry areas used by horsemen and hikers.
- The Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) program includes many partners, an increased ability to get necessary funding, and local involvement and leadership, which is key to the success of any CWMA.
- Idaho Weed Conference provides a venue for shared knowledge and success.
- The Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign (IWAC) provides a centralized education base.
- Research centers
- Task force approach providing mapping and leadership.
- Idaho Weed Coordinating Committee, which brings federal and state agencies together to work on common issues.
- Support from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture is very good – it provides the necessary coordination for governmental agencies and private landowners.
- Mention was made of the "Kidnapper's Program" in Camas County, involving high school students in the eradication of noxious weeds.
- Gooding County has worked in conjunction with the Transportation Department on a bio-control project where youth assisted in cleaning up an old stockpile site.
- The Weiser River Trail group, through a Washington County grant and trail funds, has worked on weed eradication on right-of-ways along railroad tracks.
- Sometimes success comes in the form of ordinary citizens and youth taking personal responsibility for ensuring the areas they come in contact with are free of weeds.
- Research is a valuable tool and a sign of success when there is increased awareness and knowledge about the invasive problem.
- Cleaner trails and campsites show people are becoming more involved.
- The accomplishments of the Eurasian Watermilfoil Task Group with its improved mapping projects, providing leadership and an agenda with a plan for action.
- The Department of Agriculture has expanded its contacts with county weed superintendents, which enables them to more effectively deal with county commissioners; this has been a great success for promoting better understanding when funding decisions need to be made.
- Partnership with the Idaho Association of Counties provides better understanding of economic impacts of invasive species and the relationship of Idaho State Department of Agriculture with County Commissioners.
- The increase in the number of CWMA's throughout the state and surrounding areas is another sign of success.
- The Forest Service, in cooperation with the Idaho Foundation Seed Program and seed certification agencies in Washington, Nevada, and Utah, encourages the replanting of native species of seed for restoration of areas once invasive species are eradicated.
- The Idaho Strategic Plan was a great first step in creating goals to be accomplished.
- Strong federal support is needed to fund CWMA's, which makes funding available to private landowners.
- Comment was made that the involvement in the CWMA's indicates a confidence that the people on the ground level can do the work if the necessary resources are available.

## **Q – How can we improve our effectiveness?**

### **Prevention and Pathways:**

- A central “clearinghouse” is needed to relay information and coordinate contacts and responses. The clearinghouse should be for information in and out.
- Areas at risk need to be identified.
- Utilize web-mapping technologies for reporting and learning.
- Adopt a Certified Weed-Free Hay Program.
- Process/leadership for rapid assessment – region-wide.
- Develop a list of potential species threats/invasers.
- Implementation of prevention practices.
- Cross training is needed; for example, if someone is in the field looking for insects, they should also be able to identify invasive species of weeds and know the proper method of collecting samples.
- The idea of a separate hotline was suggested for reporting concerns or getting more information. The 1-800-IDWEEDS hotline was referenced, but it was noted that this did not deal with potential invaders or aquatics.
- More exposure/marketing is needed.
- It is important that information be sent out to key people for response, and follow-up is needed.
- Comment was made that reports or complaints are more likely to generate a response. If members of the public are aware of weed problems and report them, action at the county level is more likely.
- It was suggested that a list of potential invaders be maintained to identify future areas of concern.
- All land should fall under the NWFF&S certification requirements; at present, only the U.S. Forest Service requires weed-free certified feed.
- Suggestion was made that there needs to be awareness about washing down fire trucks coming in from weed areas, greater care concerning birdseed content, pet store sales of certain items, and washing down ATVs, motorcycles, and other vehicles likely to transport invasive species from one area to another.

### **Early Detection/Rapid Response:**

- More training is needed for on-the-ground personnel.
- Need organizational structure in place that can identify problems and communicate them throughout a network of workers for effective and timely response. The roles should be clearly defined – who will perform what specific task?
- There is a need to eliminate redundancies throughout agencies. There is no sense in having three separate crews from different agencies perform the same task in the same area (for example, railroad, highway department, and county weed superintendent's group). Everyone should not be trained to do everything; consolidate efforts.
- GPS/GIS systems should be utilized on a larger scale to track areas. There should be one source for exploring the incidence of an invasive species in one area, county, or state.
- A process needs to be in place for rapid assessment and response as to whether or not a potential invader poses a significant threat.
- Authority needs to extend over state or regional boundaries.
- There are numerous weed organizations throughout the state and nation. These individual groups should be better coordinated to serve more effectively and avoid “reinventing the wheel” or duplication of effort. Reduce redundancy between agencies.
- The focus needs to be expanded beyond terrestrial weeds to include insects and aquatics.
- Educate decision makers and local officials.



- Proactive vs. reactive funding.
- Most funding tends to be directed toward treatment as a priority. There is a need to recognize that treatment is only a small part of the entire process, and priorities should focus on prevention and restoration as well.
- Terrestrial weed groups should be aware of other invasive species. Assistance is needed to provide education for county weed commissioners and decision-making bodies and leaders.

#### **Education and Awareness:**

- A creative marketing program is needed (for example, the "Got Milk?" campaign, or seat belt usage advertisements). Pamphlets or signs at trailheads, kiosks, boat docks or ramps, or campsites should provide education and awareness.
- Develop an education campaign - (Asian Beetle).
- Vista points, historical landmarks, rest stops, turnouts, and RV dumps are other potential sources for reaching tourists and residents with messages about spreading invasive weeds and their harmful impact on the environment and economy.
- Discussion briefly turned to signage encouraging people to wash their vehicles, curry their horses, brush out dog hair, and check boat trailers before leaving the area. Dump/wash sites are needed, but they must be set up so that debris is not spread from these stations immediately back into the water or soil.
- A neglected group that should be included in invasive species awareness and education is business people such as boat, trailer, snowmobile, skiing, or sporting goods retailers, motor repair shops, and others who can play an important role by allowing signs to be posted in their businesses.
- Involve young children and teens at an early age for long-term awareness and habits (for example, clean-up of river floater debris). This makes them feel they are part of the solution process and gives them a feeling of pride and accomplishment.
- There should be a central contact person or website of a speakers' bureau or panel of experts willing and available to speak at education and awareness events, schools, and other sites.
- The Adopt-A-Trail program (similar to the "Adopt-A-Highway" program) would also provide "ownership" of responsibility for certain invasive species areas. This is working well, with a measurable result of increasing trail measurement coverage ranges from 18 to 128 miles.
- Many logging roads are being turned into loops, which allows easier access for control.
- The BLM in Owyhee County is working to redevelop trails with the purpose of having visitors take ownership and responsibility for tracks made.

#### **Coordination:**

- Comment was made that more emphasis needs to be on restoration of lands or waterways once eradication efforts are underway. The invasive species program cannot be successful without effective restoration efforts; otherwise, a new invader will take over.
- The annual National Invasive Weed Awareness Week conference in Washington, D.C., should be a good forum for coordinating efforts among agencies.
- Reference was made to the annual Christmas bird count. What about a 4<sup>th</sup> of July weed count?
- More information is needed so members of the public and governmental agencies can quickly access helpful websites and links. There needs to be extensive coordination between CWMA's across the state to address similar issues.



- Weed awareness efforts are working. There is an increasing focus on invasive species, which results in the need for additional time and resources. The invasive species tasks to come out of the Invasive Species Council and Summit should not be added to Brenda Waters' (Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Noxious Weed Program Coordinator, Boise) duties. Funding through legislation should provide a full-time position to coordinate the prevention, education/marketing, restoration, rapid response, and other tasks.
- There are multiple weed-related laws at the federal, state, and county levels. There should be formal agreements or memoranda of understanding regarding authority and responsibility.
- Discussion briefly turned to the difference between "noxious weeds" and "invasive species," and experts in the group clarified the terms. Suggestion was made that success already accomplished should not be diluted by adding on too many more requirements or layers of bureaucracy.
- Formal organizational structure for aquatics and other pests needs to be developed.
- Don't dilute the success of the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign by including all invasive species.
- Require federal involvement in all CWMA's statewide.
- Structure for coordination of efforts related to invasive species.

#### **Restoration:**

- Any treatment plan will be incomplete without a concomitant plan for restoration.
- Research should provide the best data available; all decisions should be based on this, not on an individual's preference, whim or solely on budgetary constraints.
- A brief discussion focused on restoration to include returning land or waterways to a "native community" versus returning an area to a "desired community" (not necessarily native plants or insects; for example, apples and potatoes are not native to Idaho). Some proposed changes to the Weed Law use the terms "rehabilitate" versus "restore."
- Use best science available when making decisions.
- Restoration funding should be a high priority.
- Planting technologies should be researched.

#### **Q – What organizations and resources should be involved and what are their probable roles?**

- The group generally agreed that private business and landowners need to have a stronger voice and more involvement. Anyone responsible for managing, owning, or using land or water or other natural resources should be actively involved. An example was given of property change ownership, with a new owner not interested in weed management and allowing weeds to invade his and neighboring property.
- Elected officials play an important role and need to be educated and kept up to date.
- The media should be included and educated.
- Private landowners usually have only themselves to rely on for representation, although the CWMAs and county weed superintendents may provide a broader base of resources and funding.
- Some county workers have the opportunity to go door-to-door and talk with neighbors concerning invasive species problems.
- Homeowner associations should also be involved and receive information and education concerning current and potential problems, and homeowners should be recruited to participate in CWMAs.
- Teachers and school districts should have access to training workshops and know who to contact for speakers and invasive species education and awareness in classrooms.
- If you manage, own or use land or water you should be included.

## **Q – What does success look like in meeting the invasive species challenge?**

### **Vision statement:**

- Members of the Legislature, as well as the general public, should be aware of the difference between invasive species and noxious weeds (reference was made to Representative Bolz' morning session remarks and his feeling that the Legislature needs a better understanding of the problem and its adverse effects, as well as what can happen if action is not taken).
- Idaho residents take personal responsibility for prevention.
- Active reduction of acres of land affected/measurable progress.
- Large lists of eradicated species.
- Healthy, functional ecosystems.
- "Trophy Areas" denotes an area that is weed free.
- Nothing invasive enters or leaves the state of Idaho.

### **Goals:**

- Adequate resources to do the job; all agencies pulling together in hopes of making vision a reality.
- Unity of purpose and all moving towards a common goal.
- Assess where we are now, to be measured against benchmarks of where we want to be in the future.
- Success would be evident if politicians talked about invasive species as part of their campaign goals and saying, "let's do it the way Idaho does it".
- Effective structure in place with timelines.
- Risk assessment.



## Terrestrial Weeds #2

### Q – What are we currently doing well and what are the signs of success?

- Public awareness through youth education packets, media.
- CWMA's, local planning and coordination – there are currently 30 CWMA's in Idaho.
- Coordination with universities and research – better weed identification, monitoring, bio-control efforts.
- Interagency cooperation – cooperatively funded publications.
- ISDA cost share program – more grant applications.
- Professionalism of weed control at local level – increased involvement of weed superintendents and more exchange of information.
- Grassroots involvement – reduction of complacency.
- Bio-control increasing – effects have shown to be successful.
- Regional planning – Great Basin Restoration and others.
- Legislative awareness – more contacts are being made, Executive Summary.

### Q – How can we improve our effectiveness?

#### Prevention and Pathways:

- Certified weed-free forage program with universal inspection and enforcement.
- Intra-state coordination – pathways – coordinating with neighboring states.
- Cooperation between county and federal officials – there needs to be a marriage between federal/state/county laws.
- Develop red-alert list.
- Increase urban weed control.
- Increase ATV/off road education and awareness. People will be self-regulating if they are made aware of the need and the results of not working together for solutions.
- Cleaning stations for ATV's, boats, etc. emphasis "Keep your Vehicle Clean".
- BMP's need to be established for construction and development portions of society.
- Pass new Idaho Weed Law – law should be proactive and a streamlined process for listing species.

#### Early Detection / Rapid Response:

- Highway rights-of-ways need management.
- Utilize U of I rapid-response team.
- Bonneville County's use of satellite imagery.

#### Education & Awareness:

- Increase public awareness – include Governor in the media.
- State-wide sign program – emphasizing terrestrial and aquatic.
- Flowing media program – highlight a different species each month.
- Coordinate media.
- Support Idaho Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC), Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission (IRRC) – and push for environmental education in Idaho classrooms.
- The ISDA Cost Share program applications procedures need to be established and left unchanged as much as possible. The more stable the program application process can be the more encouraging it is to applicants and you avoid burn-out and vacancies. Institutional memory at the grass roots county weed superintendent level is important to a quality Cost Share program.

#### Coordination:

- Intra-state coordination.
- Website to share ideas.
- Improve off-road access management cooperation between agencies.
- Maintain ISDA cost-share granting process.



- Support full-time weed professionals at local level. Establish some form of standardized and state sanctioned position description for county weed professionals which deals with job descriptions as well as pay scale for weed supervisors across Idaho.
- Increase involvement of County Commissioners and federal/state land managers.
- Legislate more power to county agencies for on ground control and enforcement. This will be more timely and less expensive.
- Better communication of attaining funds from other sources besides ISDA, multi-year, line-item, dedicated funds.
- More qualified summer help.
- Staff at executive level to coordinate invasives efforts.
- Reduce fragmentation of responses and efforts.
- Expansion of CWMA coordination between terrestrial and aquatics.

**Q – What organizations and resources should be involved and what are their probable roles?**

- Planning and Zoning Commissions, which should create a BMP plan.
- County Commissioners – better enforcement of Idaho Weed Law.
- Real estate companies – disclosure of weed problems.
- Idaho Association of Counties, Cities – legislative collaboration.
- Large land-holding corporations – exemplary BMP's e.g., Boise Cascade.
- Organic Growers Association
- Nurseries, landscape companies
- Ag commodity and farm organizations
- Idaho Legislature and committees
- Irrigation companies
- Private applicators
- Federal military, Department of Defense, facilities
- Chambers of commerce
- NIFC/student conservation associations
- Recreation groups – Whitewater, Horsemen, Bird, Hunting, Outfitters and Guides – these could be a tremendous help in detection and rapid response, bad as vectors of spread
- University Extension – providing diagnostic labs and assistance with identification.
- Bonneville Power Administration – funding
- Non-profits – restoration projects
- Herbicide dealers retail and wholesale – Technical Assistance

**Q – What does success look like in meeting the invasive species challenge?**

**Vision Statement:**

- Where prevention is recognized as a viable program and fully funded.
- Early detection and rapid response – successful interceptions and eradications.
- No new invaders - success stories of interception.
- Clean areas stay clean – establish buffers along non-invaded areas.
- Keep/restore the native species or healthy desired conditions.
- Effective established bio-control – both long term and early in the cycle.
- Reduced environmental harm from management tools.
- Inter-agency relationships are seamless/fluid.
- Stable funding.
- Land managers (everyone) can identify weeds and how to control them.
- Strong, balanced ecosystem between species that resist invasion.
- Equate invasive species management with economic sustainability – weed control is good for all. Environmental/economic health = value.
- Manage healthy systems that resist invasion.
- Horticulture/pet trade that no longer sells known weeds, insects, pathogens, etc.

**Goals:**

- Effectively document spread and control through mapping and monitoring.
- Fire management that prevents invaders from coming in.
- Publish success stories of restoration, prevention, etc.
- Secure funding so we can have restoration-vegetation projects.
- Complete coverage of state with CWMA's.
- Increase and elevate level of public awareness.
- Expand CWMA's to include other types of organisms.

## Capstone Remarks

by  
Rick Waitley

I guess I will have to take a lesson in listening. When Bas Hargrove first approached me about presenting the capstone remarks for the Summit I thought he said Coldstone and I love ice cream.

From the opening remarks by Idaho Chief Executive Office, Governor Dirk Kempthorne you have been challenged as to your level of responsibility regarding this Invasive Species Summit. The Governor noted that the Summit had assembled together a talented and influential group of people. His challenge to you was to "craft an action plan" with the results of your Summit activities.

Throughout the day you have heard some key phrases:

- We can't do everything.
- How can we get the best bang for our buck?
- Invasives don't respect border or politics.
- The charge – "Work Together".
- All organisms need to be inspected.
- We need a coordinated effort.
- We need to identify new invaders rapidly.
- The time for action is now – before the invasives stampede.

As I visited the small working groups this afternoon I saw an analogy similar to packing for a trip. When I know I am going to be out of town I like to pack those important items that will help my trip to be a success. That is what I observed in each of the small groups – people packing for a successful trip. Some of the items "packed" for our action plan:

- People were engaged
- Common ground was prevalent.
- Let's work together no matter the group or agency.
- Idaho cannot be an island, we must look to our neighbors.
- What educational efforts are in place that we can use or borrow?  
A good example is the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign that borrowed the framework and infrastructure from the state of Montana.
- We need to consolidate our efforts.
- We are more than just about weeds – we are all about invasive species.
- Time is vital – rapid response is a must.
- Coordination is necessary.
- Need for flexibility in the State Weed Law.
- We have a need for a statewide response plan.
- The time to start is now – we can't wait.
- We need to strengthen the work of the Invasive Species Council.
- Create an icon for Invasive Species.
  - I personally thought about this recommendation. My mind went towards Smokey the Bear, Woodsy Owl and other natural resource icons. While I was growing up my cousin always called me "Icky Ricky" so I am here to propose "Icky the Invasive".



In 1999, many of you assembled at the Red Lion Riverside under the leadership of Governor Phil Batt and were challenged by the Executive Officer to develop a strategic plan to fight weeds in Idaho. Leaders gathered, speakers presented, working groups worked and the result was this action plan. That plan has brought some great results:

- Better coordination
- Concentrated efforts
- Implementation plans
- Educational programs
- Agency collaboration
- And as the theme for the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign says "Pulling Together Against Invasive Weeds".

The work over the next few weeks and months will be to summarize, clarify and research the issues that have surfaced today. I believe on the horizon is an "action plan" to protect and improve Idaho in the invasive species arena.

Now, let me turn the time back to your Chairman, our Director and my friend – Pat Takasugi.

## **List of Participants**

### Breakdown of Participants

Agribusiness	2	Idaho Rural Partnership	1
Agriculture Associations	6	Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign	1
Boise Parks & Rec	2	INEEL	4
Congressional Offices	2	Landscape Association	1
County Commissioners	2	Media	2
County Weed Control	24	National Park Service	2
CWMA	3	Nez Perce Tribe	1
EPA	1	NW Natural Resource Group	1
Governor's Office	1	Outfitters & Rec Associations	4
Higher Education	16	Pac.States Marine Fisheries Comm	1
Idaho Assoc. of Counties	1	State Legislator	2
Idaho Conservation League	1	The Nature Conservancy	9
Idaho Dept of Agriculture	12	The Wilderness Society	1
Idaho Dept of Fish & Game	3	USDA APHIS	2
Idaho Dept of Health & Welfare	1	USDA Forest Service	9
Idaho Dept of Lands	7	USDA NRCS	2
Idaho Dept of Parks & Rec	8	U.S. Fish & Wildlife	1
Idaho Dept of Transportation	10		
Idaho Dept of Water Resource	1		
Idaho Power	1		
Idaho Rangeland Resource Comm.	1		



# Invasive Species Summit Registration

Key: Ag = agriculture  
AQ = aquatic  
F = Forest  
T = Terrestrial 1 or 2

NAME	Title	Dept.	E-Mail	Ag	AQ	F	T
Allred, Steve	Director	ID DEQ	sallred@deq.state.id.us		X		
Ball, Jake	Regional Director	Office of Sen. Michael D Crapo	jake_ball@crapo.senate.gov				
Ball, Richard	Supervisor	Jefferson Soil & Water Cons. Dist.	mary.jennings@id.usda.gov	X			
Barker, Bill	Conservation Steward	The Nature Conservancy	bbarker@tnc.org	X			
Barnes, Charles	Agriculture Field Director	Congressman Simpson Office	charles.barnes@mail.house.gov		X		
Bartlett, Judy	Director of Public Affairs	ID Farm Bureau Federation	jbartlett@idahofb.org	X			
Batt, Roger	Coordinator	ID Weed Awareness Campaign	rbatt@spiro.net				X
Behrens, Tracy	Range Cropland Program Manager	ID Dept of Lands	tbehrens@idl.state.id.us				X
Bell, Jack	Director	Nez Perce Tribe-Land Service Prog.	jbell@nezperce.org				X
Bennett, K Lynn	Director	BLM	jon_foster@blm.gov				X
Biladeau, Jay	Assistant Director	ID Dept of Lands	jbladeau@idl.state.id.us				X
Birkholz, William	Past President	ID Nursery & Landscape Assoc.	willy@franzwitte.com		X		
Bolz, Darrell	Representative District 10	House of Representatives	dbolz@house.state.id.us				
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NAME	Title	Dept.	E-Mail	Ag	AQ	F	T
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NAME	Title	Dept.	E-Mail	Ag	AQ	F	T
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# **Summary of Evaluations**



## Summary of Evaluations

by  
Rick Waitley

**Morning Session:** Participants were complimentary of the presenters especially the involvement by the Governor and his making invasive species a priority of the administration. For some, the morning session was very repetitive of information they already knew, for others they found the information to be very worthwhile and informative. Participants found the data and formulas presented by speaker Dr. Hiebert to be of value. There was a theme of wanting to know more about the Invasive Species Council. There was also concern expressed that the morning was weighted with too many politicians speaking and not hearing from other areas of society and their concerns and needs associated with invasive species. Several mentioned the need for an overview of where invasive species are at this time in Idaho. A statewide overview would have been helpful.

**Afternoon/Breakout Session:** The participants were complimentary of the structure, time and format used for feed back sessions. Most found the groups to be very informative and well rounded with a variety of views by participants. The diversity of each group added to the dynamics for good discussions. Some indicated that they could have spent more time in the breakout groups to have developed a little further future action plans for each area. Most leaders of the breakout sessions were commended for their efforts to keep the groups on task and moving along. Some issues were raised related to the relevance of the prepared questions and whether or not they were focused on the task of the day. Most everyone rated the afternoon/breakouts to be of stronger value than the morning session.

**General/Concluding Session:** The participants felt that the reporting by the Breakout groups was rushed and not enough time allocated to hear back from each group. Others felt that given the content and time commitment of the day that the concluding session was run efficiently and that details of each group will follow in the Summit proceedings.

**Advertisement:** *Was the Summit adequately advertised?* This is an interesting question since the registrations were capped for the conference. Several participants listed groups that they felt were missing from the discussions: canal companies, nursery industry, more private industry, and private property owners. Most had heard of the Summit through email, word of mouth or by the materials that were mailed.

**Pre-Summit materials:** *Were pre-Summit materials useful?* Several mentioned that they had not seen any pre-summit materials. Others requested a list of the participants at the Summit. (that will be in the Proceedings). Several were asking for what "groups" were present at the Summit, i.e. Department of Transportation, private industry, user groups, etc.

**Organizations:** *Are you aware of any organizations, agencies, or individuals not at the Summit who should have been included but may have been overlooked?* Participants identified a number of groups who should be informed on invasive species activity. The list included back country outfitters, Corp of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, industries such as Monsanto, DuPont, Dow; Dept of Commerce, school districts, NASA, land developers, aquarium and pet industry representatives, Port of Lewiston, Idaho Power, City and County Government leaders, aquaculture industry, US Coast Guard, recreation user groups, U of I Extension Educators, Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, livestock industry, and "joe public".

**Facilities:** *Were meeting facilities appropriate/adequate? Was parking accessible? Were snacks and meals satisfactory?* Participants felt cramped for space in the room and limited with parking availability at the facility. Some mentioned the length of the time allocated for lunch and that breaks were too frequent. Others commended the staff and planners for the amount of energy to make it all happen and that the facility was a good choice along with break foods, lunch and beverages offered throughout the day.



**Expectation:** *What did you expect from the Summit? Were those expectations met?* Most participants came to the Summit to learn who, what, why, where and how of invasive species in Idaho. Several participants came to see who else would be coming – who are the players in the invasive species arena in Idaho. Some participants knew that the Summit was only an initial step towards the development of an action plan for Idaho. Others were there for education, identification of what is an invasive species, and to dialogue with a diverse group of participants. Some participants felt the day was weighted too heavily towards speeches from government people and not enough of “roll up the sleeve and plan what to do towards invasive species”. Others requested more pictures and actual identification of what is an invasive species and why all the discussion surrounding this subject. Some participants were hoping to go home with a nice packet of material to disseminate to others from their community or agency. There seemed to be some frustration that the “dissemination package” was not as complete as some would like to have it when they returned home.

**Action Steps:** *What action steps do you and/or your organization plan to take following the Summit?* Public awareness and spreading information about the serious nature was strongly stated. Improved communication with the Invasive Species Council. Being aware and on the watch for early detection, working towards a system of rapid response should an invasive be identified. Several participants mentioned that they came to the Summit thinking this was all about weeds but by the end of the day they knew that they had to have a much broader radar screen to detect other types of invasive species that may enter our state.

**Invasive Species Council:** *What do you expect from the Invasive Species Council following the Summit?* By far, most participants are looking for a timely development of a statewide action plan to handle invasive species. Education to the general public on awareness, being on guard, and how to notify proper authorities for any suspect species was also listed as an important role for the Council. Participants identified the need to secure long-term funding in order to maintain the educational efforts of the Council. There is a need for continued efforts with city, county and state officials to make them aware of the invasive species activity in Idaho. All levels of government must understand that this is a high priority for the state. Some participants see the Council, as being a team of experts to come into local communities, events and organizations to raise awareness about invasive species. The development of a website for distribution of materials and information as well as the importance of meeting for action items and not just to meet were emphasized a number of times.

**Action Plan Suggestions:** *Would you be willing to assist with Invasive Species Council Task Group? As the Invasive Species Action Plan is developed and its implementation gets underway, are there any additional concerns or suggestion you feel should be addressed?* Most participants are taking a wait, watch and see attitude in this area. They want the Action Plan developed so they can react to it and then make a determination to the level of involvement of them personally or from their organization/agency. Several participants asked for input on the action plan as it develops. I don't think this means they want to attend meetings and sit around a table and hash through issues, but they would like to see and react to drafts as they develop over time. Several specific things were listed such as contacting universities and INEEL for research on invasive species issues; working with lawmakers to write laws that establish criminal penalties related to invasive species and strong public awareness. There seems to be a feeling that the Invasive Species Council is an excellent source of coordination for a statewide effort and is essential to maintain a concentrated effort or it would be easy to fragment dollars and manpower in several agencies of government and not accomplish the same end result.

**Overall comments:** *Do you feel that the Summit provided a forum for you to learn more about invasive species and allow you to provide input for follow-up and the preparation of an Action Plan?* Comments about the overall Summit were very positive. Many participants have planned similar events and acknowledged how much work and effort it took to accomplish the goals of the day. The comments would also identify the need for a workshop format that is held around the state to give some “hands on skills” related to invasive species. This would include at a minimum, identification of major threats, reporting, educational information and additional resources that are available. There seems to be a strong support for a summary from the Summit – this will be accomplished through the Summit proceedings.



